KNOW WHERE TO GO

Three Ways to Save Time and Money

Save the ER for Emergencies

When you want quicker non-emergency care than you can get from your doctor, consider skipping the emergency room and going to a network urgent care center. You won't have to wait for hours in a crowded room, and you pay less – up to three times less for the same care that you would get in an emergency room.

What Is an Urgent Care Center?

An urgent care center is a freestanding, full-service, walk-in health care clinic that offers service seven days a week and extended hours. Appointments are not required. Urgent care centers offer the same services as primary care providers, plus some testing services such as X-rays and blood tests.

Urgent or Emergency Care – What's the Difference?

Go to an urgent care center for minor accidents like burns, cuts, strains and sprains, or common medical problems like the flu, colds, earaches, sore throat, allergic reactions, and infections.

Go to an emergency room for more serious, life-threatening situations such as chest pain, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, high fever with a stiff neck, broken bones, mental confusion, and major injuries.

Choose the most appropriate setting for your care. Save time and spend less for the same care.

To locate a network urgent care center, go to your member website or call the Member Service number on the back of your ID card.

Pay Much Less at Independent Labs and Imaging Centers

Imaging (X-Ray/MRI/CT Scans) Tests

It's something you probably don't even think about. Your doctor has ordered an X-ray, CT scan, nuclear medicine scan, MRI scan, or an ultrasound and you automatically go where you're directed, right? But having X-rays or other imaging tests at the hospital can be up to 30 percent more expensive than having these tests performed at an X-ray/imaging center.

So the next time your doctor orders an imaging or radiology test, consider getting tested at your local X-ray/imaging center instead of a hospital. These centers are especially equipped to provide diagnostic and screening imaging tests. You can also save time, since these centers are often quicker, more convenient and efficient. In some cases, you can even get your screening results the same day!

You can locate the X-ray/imaging center nearest you by logging onto your member website, clicking "Find a Provider," then "Search for a diagnostic and imaging center." Indicate your ZIP code and specialty search type. Select "X-ray/Imaging Center" as the facility type.

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Blood Tests

Blood tests such as those done to count blood cells, measure glucose and cholesterol levels, and thyroid function, may take a longer time to run if performed at a hospital. You can save time by taking your blood test prescription to your local independent lab instead. Going to a lab is quicker, and since they are conveniently located, you will spend less time getting there. Getting blood tested at a lab may be more efficient, since these facilities are dedicated to providing this service.

You can locate the Independent Lab (like LabCorp) nearest you by logging onto your member website, clicking "Find a Provider," then "Search for a Laboratory." Indicate your ZIP code and specialty search type.

As a Highmark West Virginia member, you don't have to go out of your way to spend less. Wherever you live or work, there's a dedicated Medical Aid Unit, lab, or imaging center that offers prompt, quality, cost-saving care.

Questions?

Log in to **highmarkbcbswv.com** or call the Member Service number on the back of your ID card.

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