

<b>SYMPTOM</b>	<b>TIME FRAME FOR MEDICAL CARE</b>	<b>AT HOME TREATMENT</b>
Laceration (Cut)	Immediately	Call us if you are not sure if it needs to be stitched. Call us within 24 hours to check your child's tetanus status. While pediatric urgent care centers can stitch, glue, and staple lacerations, a plastic surgeon in the ER may be necessary for facial lacerations.
Head Trauma	Immediately	This may need an evaluation in the ER. Call us to find out. Common signs that warrant an ER visit include loss of consciousness, inconsolability, vomiting, and/or seizure-like activity or abnormal sleepiness.
Other Trauma	24 hours	Rest, ice, compression with an ace bandage, and elevation. Unless it is an obvious break, it is safe to wait and give Motrin/Advil or Tylenol for discomfort. We can send you to an orthopedist, if needed, after we have seen the injury.
Ear Pain	24 hours	Motrin/Advil (if above 6 mos old) or Tylenol Pain relief is key No ear infection needs immediate treatment Follow up is important
Sore Throat	24 hours	Motrin/Advil (if above 6 mos old) or Tylenol Strep throat does not require immediate treatment Even antibiotic started on the same night will not affect school attendance the next morning
Fever (>2mos old)	24 hours	Motrin/Advil (if above 6 mos old) or Tylenol See our fever chart for tips on alternating medications Remember to treat the child, not the fever! Fever with no other symptom can mean that the illness is still evolving and things can be missed if your child is seen too soon.
Cough without distress	2-3 days	Humidifier, saline/suction, fluids, honey (if above 1yo) Unless your child is in respiratory distress it is best to wait until our office opens to be seen. A barking cough can be calmed by sitting in a steamy bathroom or by breathing in the cold air outside or from the kitchen freezer.
Abdominal Pain	Call if lasting longer than 2hrs	Constipation, gas, and viruses are the most common causes for pain. Surgical reasons like appendicitis require an ER visit Call us to find out
Vomiting	Call if not holding down fluids	Small sips of clear liquid Most vomiting can be handled over the phone