



## WRITING SAMPLE

**Publication:** GateHouse Media

**Publish date:** February 2019

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# 6 Surprising Things You Can Take Care of at Urgent Care

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Many modern urgent care centers are broadening their offerings. No longer just for a suspected sprained ankle or a high fever, urgent care centers offer a wide variety of services for a wide variety of customers. Debating where to go to get an injury or illness treated? Here's a quick guide on a number of things you might not have realized can be handled by a nearby urgent care center.

### **Physicals for adults and students**

Need a physical for your employer? Or perhaps your child needs a physical for a sports team? Many urgent care centers offer reasonably priced, flat rate-physical exams. Because urgent care offices are generally open beyond a regular physician's office hours, visits to urgent care facilities are often more convenient for full-time workers and students. Keep in mind, however, that some centers only offer school physicals at specific time of the year — at the beginning of a semester, for example — so it may be best to call for particulars.

### **Drug testing**

It's become a common practice for employers to require a drug screening for new or potential employees. If you're looking for pre-employment drug testing, many urgent care facilities offer a range of screening. Call ahead to confirm the facility will do what you need.

### **X-rays**

Many urgent care centers have x-ray capabilities. If you suspect that you or a loved one has suffered a bone fracture, call your nearest urgent care center to find out if they can provide an x-ray, instead of making an expensive trip to the emergency room. And while you're on the phone, ask how long the wait is — chances are, waiting times at your local urgent care center will be shorter than at a busy hospital.

### **Travel vaccines**

Planning a trip abroad and need specific immunizations? Many urgent care centers offer a number of vaccines recommended for travelers. Depending on where you are visiting and what you will be doing at your destination — for example, ensconced in a hotel at a conference, or backpacking through a forest — urgent care physicians will make specific recommendations.

They may suggest vaccinations against yellow fever, hepatitis A or B, typhoid, rabies, Japanese encephalitis or other illnesses.

### **Workers compensation injuries**

If you've experienced a work-related injury, immediate care might be just what you need. Many urgent care centers are familiar with and prepared for workers' comp injuries, which require special paperwork. Your employer might even be able to provide you with a list of urgent providers with whom they work. This will make the whole process more streamlined.

### **Get your prescriptions filled**

Some urgent care centers have onsite pharmacies. If the caregiver you see prescribes medicine, the prescription can be sent electronically to the in-house pharmacy. Instead of having to drive to another location, you can just walk a few steps and pick up your medicine.