The problems with freestanding ERs | view in Web Browser





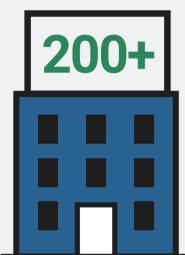


## Hello,

We know how important it is to help participants get proper care and save money. We created an infographic showing how freestanding ERs can compromise their care and charge them exorbitant fees. We're emailing this infographic to participants today. We include it below for you to share.

You can copy, paste, and email it to your employees, or you can share this link with them.





#### That's how many freestanding ERs there are in Texas.

This may seem like a good thing because it gives you options for care. But what you don't know about freestanding ERs could hurt you-and your wallet.

# \$3,000

the average cost of a non-emergency

## \$158

cost of a comparable non-emergency visit at an urgent care center

# 90%

the number of freestanding ER patients who could have gotten

treatment for much less elsewhere

freestanding ER visit in Texas

the number of freestanding ER visits that actually require emergency care

n O/ the number of freestanding ERs that may not be upfront about their pricing

22X

19X

how much more you may pay at a freestanding ER for the same services at your doctor's office

how much more you may pay at a freestanding ER for the same

services at an urgent care center

# **Top 3 reasons to beware of freestanding ERs:**

High costs!

Many freestanding ERs are out of network and have misleading prices. You may end up with a surprisingly high bill for unnecessary care.

Lack of quality care!

Since freestanding ERs are not attached to hospitals, they may not be able to

provide the care you need.

**Delayed care!** If you need actual emergency care or hospital admission, transferring to a

# How to spot a freestanding ER

hospital will cost you precious time and money.

The freestanding ER down the street may look like an urgent care center, but they're not the same.

- Freestanding ERs look like urgent care centers but have the word "EMERGENCY" in their name.
- Freestanding ERs are usually open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Urgent care centers typically close at night.
- Freestanding ERs aren't connected to a hospital.

Remember, you can always call a Personal Health Guide, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at 1-866-355-5999 for help. You also have access to the 24/7 Nurseline at 1-833-968-1770 to answer health-related questions and help you decide whether to go to the ER or find another option for care.

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Thank you again for all you do,

The TRS-ActiveCare Team

## www.bcbstx.com/trsactivecareba

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8:08 AM 100% ••••• 🕏 **<** Back (99) TRS ACTIVECARE BlueCross BlueShield of Texas **FREESTANDING ERs:** ONE VISIT **COULD COST** YOU BIG TIME! Hello, We know how important it is to help participants get the proper care and save money. We created an infographic, showing how freestanding ERs can compromise employees' care and charge them exorbitant fees. We're emailing this infographic to participants today. We include it below for you

