

Freestanding Emergency Room

Freestanding emergency rooms are extensions of hospitals that provide access to care and are extraordinarily valuable to EMS and the communities that they serve.

When to Go to a Freestanding Emergency Room

- Chest pain
- Concussion/head injury
- Flu, stomach flu, or severe colds with complications or other symptoms
- Severe stomach pain
- Side pain
- Trouble breathing
- Severe pain
- Signs of a stroke (face drooping, arm weakness, speech difficulty, loss of balance, vision changes)

Advantages of a Freestanding Emergency Room

- ✓ Increases access to care in communities
- ✓ Crucial point of intervention and stabilization, potentially leading to lower levels of care required, shorter recovery times and ultimately less financial impact, e.g. stroke, heart attack
- ✓ Alleviates overcrowding in main hospital ER
- ✓ Shorter wait times for patients
- ✓ Open 24 hours/7 days a week
- ✓ Staffed by emergency medicine physicians, specially trained emergency nurses and support teams
- ✓ Built to accommodate ambulance transports
- ✓ Enables EMS to return to the field faster
- ✓ Participates in local emergency preparedness activities and plays a key role in natural disasters and mass casualty events.

Services Provided

- Full-service emergency care – the same services offered at hospital-based ERs
- Advanced imaging for emergency care diagnostics and testing, including CT scan, X-ray and ultrasound imaging
- On-site laboratory testing

Freestanding Emergency Room Basics

- Requires a significant capital investment
- Cannot refuse patients based on their ability to pay
- Subject to EMTALA
- Accredited by The Joint Commission
- Treats Medicaid and uninsured patients



The Right Level of Care at the Right Time and the Right Place

	PCP	Retail Clinics	Urgent Care	FSER	Emergency Room
Joint Commission Accredited	○	○	○	●	●
Open 24/7	○	○	○	●	●
Extended Hours	◐	◐	◐	●	●
Vital Role in Natural Disaster and Mass Casualty Responses	○	○	○	●	●
Participate in Local Emergency Preparedness Activities	○	○	○	●	●
Targets Unscheduled Care	◐	◐	◐	●	●
Scope of Service	◐	○	◐	◐	●
Required to Accept All Patients, Regardless of Ability to Pay	○	○	○	●	●
Built to Accommodate Ambulances	○	○	○	●	●
Complies with EMTALA	○	○	○	●	●

● Excellent/Yes ○ Poor/No

CONTINUUM OF CARE

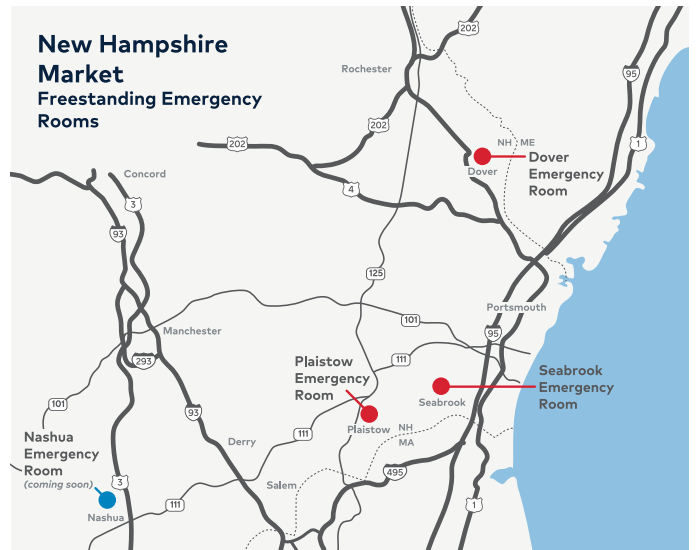
Urgent Care Hours vs. Freestanding ER Hours



URGENT CARE
12-14 hours



FREESTANDING ERs
24 hours



Above all else, we are committed to the care and improvement of human life.



Catholic Medical Center
Frisbie Memorial Hospital
Parkland Medical Center
Portsmouth Regional Hospital