Welcome to the UC Davis Medical Center Emergency Department

What to expect during your visit

Open your arrival!

Medical emergencies can vary greatly in degree and type from person to person; no two emergencies or two patients are alike. Emergencies occur unexpectedly, adding to the stress of injury or illness. It is normal to experience overwhelming feelings such as fear, anxiety, stress, and loss of control.

Registration may happen at any time after triage. You will be asked to sign a registration form. Registration information, including name, address, and insurance information will be entered into the computer.

Patient photography or recording policy

Photography or recording that is undertaken by the patient or at the request of the patient is appropriate as long as the photography or recording does not interfere with the care of patients. Patient photography or recording may not include other patients or employees (e.g. physicians, nurses, staff) without their consent. Patient photography or recording is limited to patient rooms and/or discrete patient treatment areas. If any UCDMC policies or the privacy of other patients or employees is violated by patient photography or recording, the photography or recording must stop and Risk Management or Security should be contacted for further guidance, as appropriate.

Please respect all patients’ and staff’s privacy during your visit.

Trage and registration

You may be called back every 2-4 hours to be re-evaluated by the triage nurse while you wait to be seen in a treatment room. If you experience any change in your condition (such as increased pain or bleeding) during this time, please notify the triage nurse.

Waiting area

The person sitting next to you may be in worse condition than you; symptoms of illness are not always visible.

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Treatment

Test results may be performed to learn more about your condition. Your care team will let you know how long you can expect to wait for results.

Once your tests are complete, your doctor will discuss your treatment options and plan next steps with you.

The Emergency Department team:

Doctors (interns, residents, and attending physicians)

Nurse practitioners

Nurses

ED and radiology technicians

Unit secretaries and registrars

Discharge or admission

If a decision is made to admit you to the hospital, your Emergency Department nurse will care for you until your hospital bed is available. Your Emergency Department doctor will continue to care for your health with the doctors and nurses in the hospital.

Leaving the Emergency Department

Your or your child’s care team will explain your instructions to you and answer any questions you have about follow-up care.