VA | **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 29, 2022

We invite any media interested in interviewing our VA staff to learn more about care and services to contact our Public Affairs Officer at 989-497-2500, extension 13010 or e-mail tara.scheuer@va.gov

Aleda E. Lutz VAMC Announces Reduction of Urgent Care Hours

The Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center, located 1500 Weiss Street, Saginaw, MI, will be changing their Urgent Care Clinic (UCC) hours effective June 6, 2022.

"This reduction in Urgent Care hours was a result of declining workload after the hours of 7:00 p.m., and also for our VA Medical Center to become compliant with Urgent Care operations' guidance," stated Dr. James Hines, Chief of Staff.

The new hours of operation will be:

- Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday and Sunday, 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Closed on all actual and observed Federal Holidays
  - If a Federal Holiday falls on a Saturday, the observed holiday for VA staff is Friday.
  - If the Federal Holiday falls on a Sunday, the observed holiday for VA staff is Monday.

Please review the information below to better understand when urgent care or emergency care is the right choice: (VA Link to Additional Information)

When to choose urgent care	When to call 911 or go to the emergency room
Our VA and in-network urgent care providers can meet many of your health needs. And you can often get care for minor illnesses or injuries much faster than in an emergency room.	Any time you think your life or health is in danger, go to the nearest emergency room or call 911 right away. If you or someone else has symptoms that can't wait (like choking, stopped breathing, or severe chest pain), don't try to drive to an

Urgent care might be right for you if you have health problems or symptoms like these:

- A sore throat or persistent cough

- Strains, sprains, or minor broken bones

- Deep cuts that are no longer bleeding a lot

- Allergies

- Mild burns

- Mild nausea or vomiting

- Urinary tract infection symptoms (like needing to pee often or urgently, urine that looks cloudy or smells bad, pain when you pee, or pain in your side, abdomen, or pelvic area)

emergency room. Call 911 to have emergency care come to you.

Get emergency help right away for any symptoms like these:

- Head injury

- Trouble breathing

- Falling without a known cause

- Cuts that won't stop bleeding, severe burns, or wounds that won't close

- Stroke symptoms (like slurred speech, sudden numbness or weakness in a part of your body, loss of balance or vision, or a drooping face)

- Chest pain or discomfort (like pressure, squeezing, or a feeling of fullness in your chest)

- Severe allergic reaction symptoms (like swelling lips or trouble swallowing or breathing)

- Vaginal bleeding or abdominal pain during pregnancy

Also get emergency help right away for head injuries or any of these symptoms:

- Severe dizziness or losing consciousness (passing out)

- A headache that keeps getting worse or won't go away

- Vomiting or nausea that won't stop

- A high fever with a headache or stiff neck

	▪ Seizures ▪ Dilated pupils, trouble waking up or staying awake, or clear fluids draining from the nose or ears after a head injury These symptoms aren't all the signs of an emergency. When in doubt, get help right away. If you need emergency care, you don't need a VA referral or approval to go to a non-VA emergency room in your community.

Veterans qualify for urgent and emergency care through the MISSION Act. Learn more about how to receive urgent or emergency care in the community at the links below:

- **Find in- network urgent care locations**
- **Find in-network emergency rooms**

Other types of VA care to consider

If you don't need help right away, you might want to consider other types of VA care.

Same-day services for primary or mental health care

Every VA medical center offers some same-day primary care and mental health services. Types of services vary by location.

Find your nearest VA facility with same-day services

Telehealth for care by phone or video

Meet with your VA health care team and send important health data from home through telehealth. You can also connect with VA specialists across the country from a VA clinic near you.

Learn more about VA telehealth

Whole Health for a personalized health plan

Whole Health is an approach to care that supports your health and well-being. This approach puts you at the center of your care. Your health team will get to know you as a person first. Then, they'll work with you to create a personalized health plan based on your values, needs, and goals.

[Learn more about Whole Health](#)

Any Veteran can call the Registered Nurse Hotline with Veterans Affairs at 989-497-2500 extension 11240.

The Aleda E. Lutz VAMC in Saginaw, Michigan operates an 81-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation Community Living Center. It provides care to over 38,263 Veterans in a 35-county geographic area, from mid-Michigan to the Mackinac Bridge. Veterans also receive care at one of our nine VA Community Based Outpatient Clinics located throughout Michigan.   More information about this VA can be found at www.saginaw.va.gov.

###