

Priority Care Centres

SA Health in partnership with Local Health Networks (LHN), Primary Health Networks and General Practices, have established five Priority Care Centres in South Australia.

Priority Care Centres (PCC) provide community-based treatment for eligible patients with urgent but non-life threatening conditions, who would otherwise be seeking treatment from a public hospital emergency department (ED).

PCCs are led by experienced general practitioners (GPs) with additional care from emergency and acute care trained SA Health nurses. Patients can access other services including radiology (x-ray, CT and ultrasound), pharmacy and pathology (blood tests). Centres are open 7 days a week.

Who can attend a Priority Care Centre?

Patients can be referred to a PCC from an ED, SA Ambulance Service, a GP or other community service. Following assessment of their condition, a patient may be offered the option of attending a PCC for treatment. Patients already at an emergency department may choose to remain in the emergency department for treatment.

Is there a fee for treatment at a Priority Care Centre?

No, there is no fee for Medicare card holders.

Where are the Priority Care Centres located?

- 📍 Elizabeth
- 📍 Marion
- 📍 Mount Barker
- 📍 Hindmarsh
- 📍 Para Hills West

What can a patient expect at a Priority Care Centre?

After discussion with the PCC, the referring clinician will be able to advise the best time for a patient to attend the PCC as well as provide the patient with the PCC contact details. All PCCs are based in existing general practices.

The patient presents to the reception at the PCC and advises that they have been referred to the Priority Care Centre. There may be a wait to be seen as would usually be expected when attending a GP. The patient will then be assessed by a nurse and a GP.

Following the appointment, patients may be referred to other health or community services for follow up care or treatment. The patient and their usual GP are provided with a discharge summary which can also be uploaded to My Health Record if the patient agrees.

PCCs do not provide ongoing care. Follow up will be with the patient's usual GP.

For more information

SA Health

sahealth.sa.gov.au/prioritycarecentres