

CottageHouseCall

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Should You Go To The ER? Symptoms Not To Ignore

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You should head right to the ER whenever you have sudden severe bleeding, shortness of breath, heart palpitations, and severe weakness, fatigue, or pain.

You should also head right to the ER if you have sudden changes in vision, severe or persistent vomiting or diarrhea, if you are coughing or vomiting blood.

Suicidal or homicidal feelings are also symptoms requiring emergency care.

Don't make the mistake of misdiagnosing yourself. After all, you've seen our Cottage ER billboards and advertisements that heartburn could be a heart attack, or that pulled muscle in your back could be an aneurysm.

If you have time, call your own doctor on your way to the ER, and he can call ahead and give us a lot of your patient information. Once you're stabilized in the emergency department, you can be sent home safely knowing that your own doctor will see you the next day.

To speed up care in the emergency room, write out a little card with key information on it and keep it in your wallet. The card should include your medications, allergies to food and medications, and whether you have a pacemaker or have had a joint replacement. It also helps to bring an adult family member or friend with you to be your advocate.

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We hope this issue of CottageHouseCall has been helpful to you. Please call again.