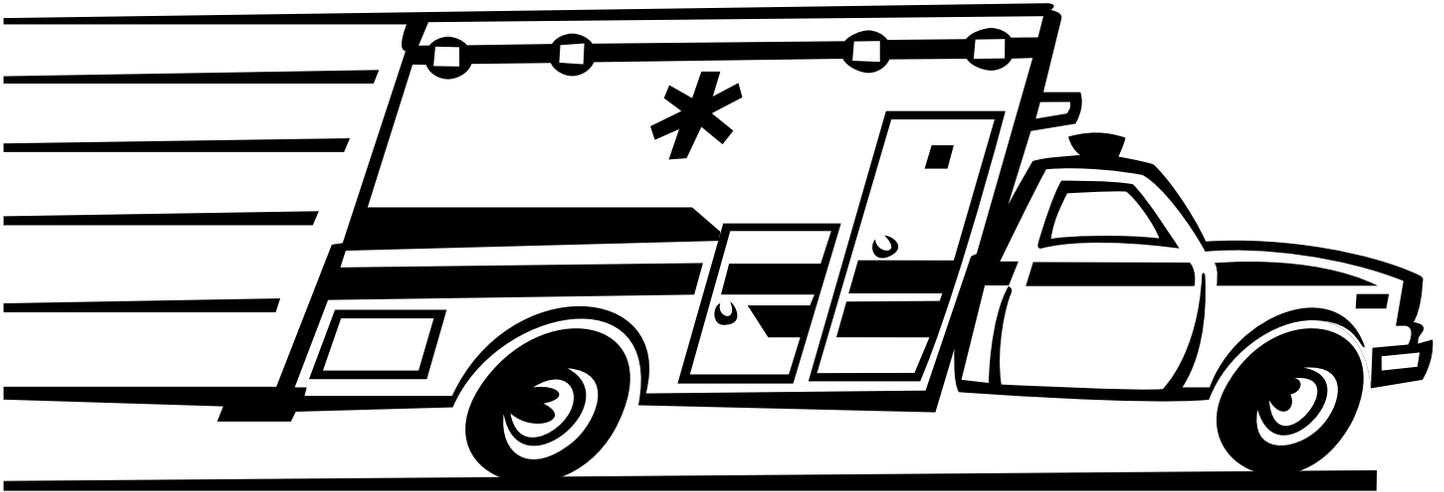


# Welcome to the **EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT!**



When you need help right away, you come here.  
Emergency doctors and nurses are here  
all day and all night to help you feel better.



Right now you may be a little scared, and that is okay. The **emergency doctors** and nurses are here to help you feel better. You may have come in an **ambulance** or someone may have driven you in a car.



More than 30 million kids come to emergency departments every year to get help, just like you.

They come for lots of reasons - stomachaches, scrapes, bumps, breaks, burns, and even earaches.

Have you seen all of the people who work in the emergency department? There are nurses, doctors, and lots of other hospital workers who are here to help you feel better. Emergency doctors and nurses have special training to help children who are very sick get better.



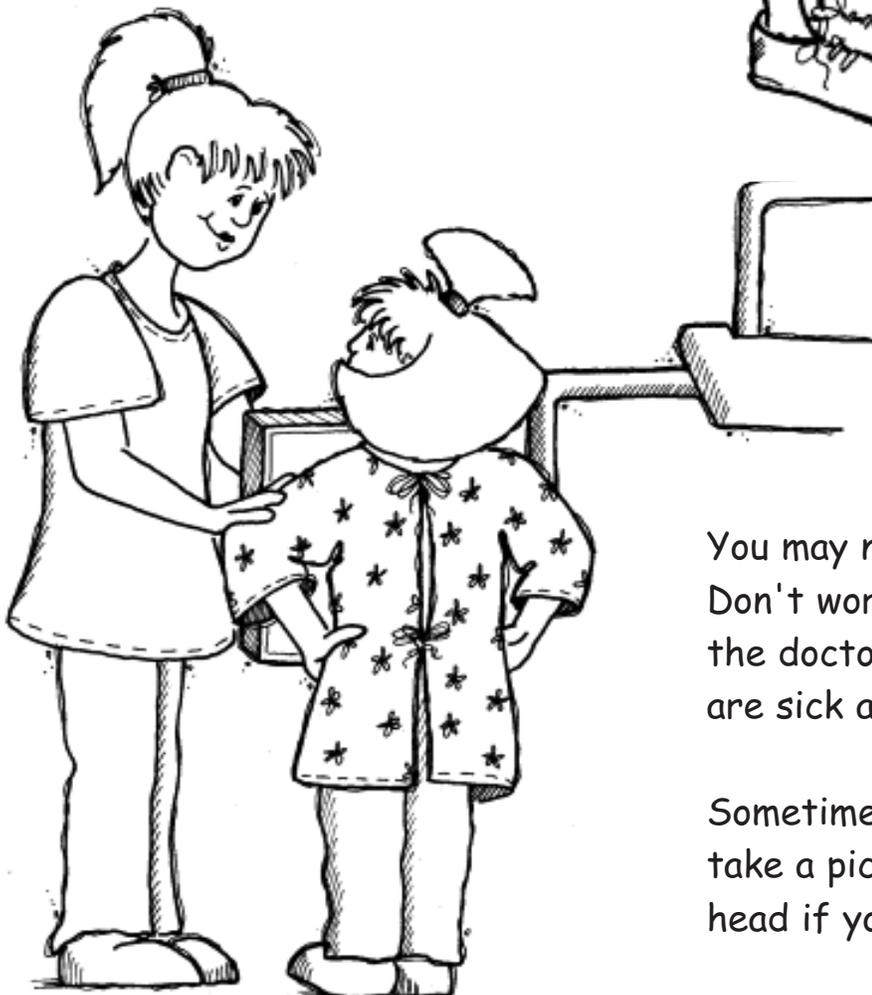
The first person you will meet is a **triage nurse** who will check your **temperature, heart rate, and blood pressure**. This nurse makes sure the sickest people are seen first.



After seeing the triage nurse, you will probably sit in the waiting room for awhile.

While you are waiting, be sure to tell your parents or the nurse if you feel worse. They will do all they can to help you feel better.

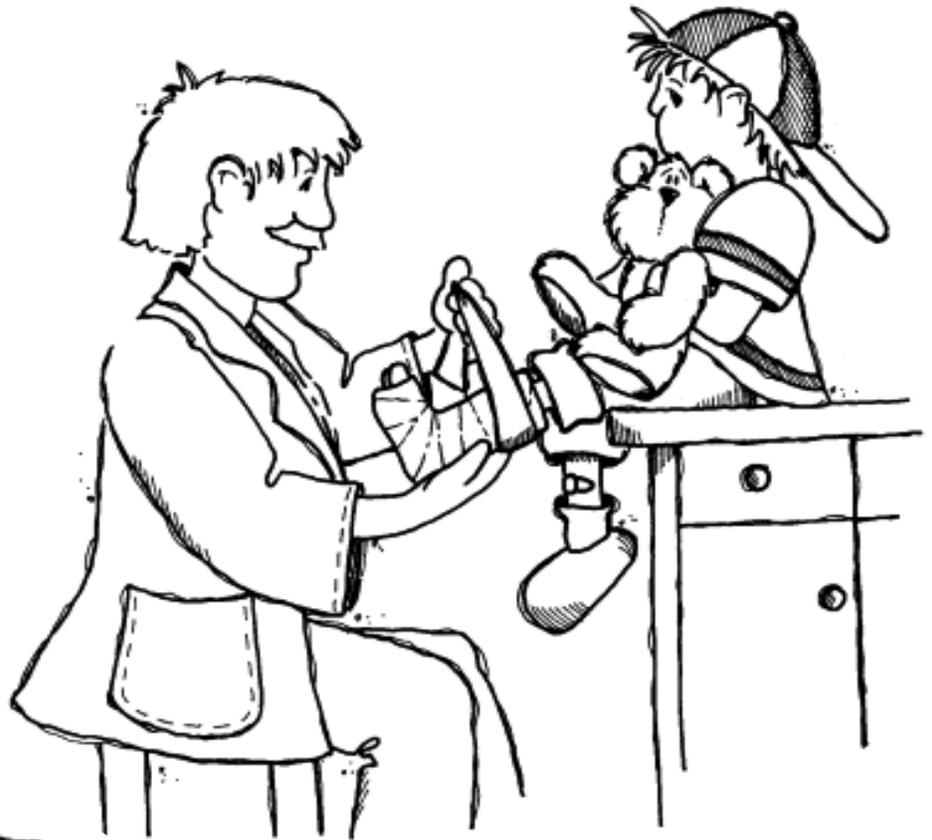
When it's your turn, you will go to an **examining room**. Here, the doctor may listen to your heart using a **stethoscope**. This will help the doctor hear your heartbeat.



You may need some tests. Don't worry! They will help the doctor find out why you are sick and what hurts.

Sometimes the doctor needs to take a picture of your chest or head if you have a problem there.

Did you hurt your arm or leg today? Sometimes our bones can break when we fall or twist the wrong way. The doctor may need to look at a picture of the bones inside your body. This is called an x-ray.



Did you get a cut today? You may need **stitches**. Although stitches may look scary and hurt a little, they will help your skin heal. The doctor also may use a special glue that seals up cuts.



If you are sick, a doctor may need to find out if any germs, called **bacteria** or **viruses**, are in your body. To fight them, you may be given medicines. Sometimes medicine may be given to you in a shot. It might hurt a little, but, it will help you feel better.



Usually a trip to the emergency department will only last a few hours, but the doctor may want you to stay longer to make sure you are all better.



Before you leave, your emergency doctor will tell you what to do to stay safe and well. Be sure to tell a doctor, a nurse, or your parents if something still hurts.

We hope you feel much better! The emergency doctors and nurses here want you to be happy and healthy. So listen to them and remember what they tell you.



**Have a great day!**

**Ambulance:** This large vehicle with sirens and red lights brings people who are sick or hurt to the hospital as fast as possible.

**Bacteria:** Tiny germs that live everywhere. Sometimes they cause us to get sick.

**Blood pressure:** This test shows how hard your heart is pumping to move blood through your body. When you are sick, blood pressure can be too high or too low.

**Emergency Doctor:** A doctor with special training to take care of people of all ages with many kinds of illnesses and injuries.

**Examining room:** A room in the emergency department where the doctor will find out how to make you better.

**Heart rate:** Tells the doctor how fast your heart is pumping blood through your body.

**Stethoscope:** A tool doctors use to hear your heartbeat.

**Stitches:** Special thread to hold the edges of skin together to help heal deep cuts.

**Temperature:** It tells the doctor if your body is hot or cold.

**Triage:** A special process that helps doctors see the sickest patients first.

**Virus:** Very small germ that sometimes causes people to get sick.

**X-ray:** A picture of the inside of your body.



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