

Washington College Health Services



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where is the Health Center?



- The Health Center is located between Caroline and Queen Anne Dorms.
- We are open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 12 noon and 1 pm to 4pm.

What can I do for an emergency or after hours?



- The Emergency Department at Chester River Hospital Center is located directly behind Minta Martin and Reid Dormitories.
- If you need assistance you can call Public Safety at 410-778-7810 (ext 7810 on campus) or 911.
- Check with your RA for minor problems. Your RA keeps a first aid kit on the hall that contains bandages, Tylenol, Advil, cold medications, antibiotic ointment, etc.

Can I just walk in to be seen?



- Unless it is an urgent care problem appointments are required.
- To make an appointment you can stop in or call 410-778-7261 (ext 7261 from a campus phone).
- If you call in the morning you can usually get an appointment for the same day.

Are there any costs associated with a visit?



- There may be charges when you visit the Health Center for tests done or medications given.
- There is no charge for the visit.
- Charges are billed back to your student account and will show up on the following month's bill.

Why do they ask when my last period was?



- All women of childbearing age should be asked this question at every health care visit.
- Irregular or missed periods can be a sign of underlying conditions that may be serious.
- Many medications including over the counter medication should not be given if there is any chance of pregnancy.

Why am I asked questions about smoking?



- Smoking is a dangerous habit and can cause many health problems.
- We want to make sure we have the opportunity to educate students about the dangers of tobacco use.
- The current trend is for college campuses to become smoke free.
- Washington College has begun to explore this option. The college offers smoking cessation assistance for students.

Why am I asked about medications I am taking?



- **All** medications have side effects and can interact with other medicines and even foods.
- It is important that you know what medications—including over the counter medications, vitamins and even herbal supplements—you are taking, how often you take them, and the dosage.
- We want to make sure that what you are taking isn't causing your symptoms and won't interact with medicines we prescribe.

Who will see me if I have an appointment?



- The Health Center is staffed with nurse practitioners (NPs) and a registered nurse.
- The NPs can handle most problems you may have while on campus. They can do exams, order labs and x-rays and write prescriptions.
- There is a physician available for more complicated or serious conditions every morning from 8:30 am to 9:30 am.

Is my health information confidential?



- **Your visit to the Health Center is confidential.**
- **We do not release any of your medical information without your permission.**
 - If you call your parents about your visit and then your parent calls us we cannot give them any information.
 - If you would like us to talk to a parent please give us permission before you leave the Health Center. We are happy to call and speak with them while you are here
 - If we think it is important to talk with a parent we may ask if you will call them while you are in the Health Center.

Can I get a class excuse from the Health Center?



- We do not give class excuses. The only exceptions to this are if you are going to miss more than three consecutive days of classes or in case of hospitalization.
- We do not release any health information to professors or Student Affairs under any circumstances.
- The only exception to release of health information without permission is in the event of an emergency or if you are deemed a danger to yourself or others. In these cases family and/or school officials must be notified.

What services does the Health Center offer?



- **The Health Center can take care of most of the health issues you might have while at college such as:**
 - Cold, Flu, and other minor illnesses
 - Management of some chronic conditions
 - Minor injuries
 - Allergy shots
 - Women's contraceptive services including Plan B
 - Testing for sexually transmitted infections
 - Smoking cessation.