

# When to Choose Virtual Physician Visits

#### **ABOUT**

#### What are Virtual Visits?

Virtual Visits enables residents to connect remotely with physicians from the comfort of the retirement residence using a secure telemedicine platform. Virtual physician clinics have been designed to support your home's ability to provide continuity of care for residents by offering timely quality physician services.

### FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING A VIRTUAL CARE VISIT

## Choosing the best model of care

Virtual Visits can increase access and satisfaction for residents when used in the right medical situations. Please remember that Virtual Visits are <u>not</u> a substitute for attending the emergency department.

Model of Care	Sample Clinical Situations
Great for Virtual Visits	In general, virtual visits are a great fit for most primary care situations that do not require a physical examination.  Here are examples of clinical scenarios that are a great fit for virtual visits:  - Prescription refills  - Chronic conditions (eg. hypertension, diabetes, thyroid)  - Mental health concerns  - Sleep concerns  - Treatment of minor ailments (urinary tract infections, rashes)  - Review of lab and imaging results
Consider an In-Person Visit	While many primary care visits can be successfully completed virtually, there are still clinical situations that require a physical examination.  Here are examples of scenarios where an in-person visit would be a better fit:  - Abdominal pain  - Congestive heart failure  - Minor musculoskeletal injuries  - Minor falls without spinal/head trauma  - Narcotics or controlled substance prescription (refill or new)
Proceed to the Closest Emergency Department	Please call 911 or proceed to the closest emergency department if a resident is experiencing any of these symptoms:  - Chest pain - Difficulty breathing - New onset confusion, weakness, slurred speech, or loss of consciousness - Spinal or head trauma - Sudden or severe pain - Severe or persistent vomiting or diarrhea - Active bleeding