



WA LABOR
**URGENT
CARE
CLINICS**

WA LABOR
Urgent Care Clinics

- ✓ In your **local hospital**
- ✓ In your **community**
- ✓ **Easing the pressure** on emergency departments
- ✓ Providing care to patients **outside normal business hours**
- ✓ **More choice** for patients



WA Labor Policy
September 2016

WA LABOR Urgent Care Clinics

Health is one of the most important issues facing all Western Australians and it is a matter upon which they expect strong leadership from Government.

As a father of three young children, I understand the stress and anxiety when a family member is sick.

When you or your family are sick you want to know that you will get the best care available.

A McGowan Labor Government will introduce Urgent Care Clinics to reduce the pressure on our hospital emergency departments so you can get the care you need when you need it.

Rather than making people sit in a busy emergency department Urgent Care Clinics will provide an alternative setting to access medical services.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will introduce Urgent Care Clinics based at major hospitals and in the community to take pressure off busy emergency departments.**

By broadening the range of services available at hospitals and in the community, WA Labor is putting the patient first to ensure everyone gets the very best of care.

A McGowan Labor Government will put patients first.



Mark McGowan
WA LABOR LEADER



STAY INFORMED:

markmcgowan.com.au/UCC

 Mark McGowan MP

 mark.mcgowan@walabor.org.au



In your local hospital

Hospital based Urgent Care Clinics will treat patients who are assessed as non-urgent.

These patients will be triaged at the hospital and taken to the clinic for further assessment. The patient will be managed by the emergency department but will be under the care of a GP and nurses more suited for the patient's condition.

Ambulances presenting at emergency departments with patients with non-life threatening conditions will be taken to an Urgent Care Clinic in a hospital setting. Other patients who wish to see a doctor after hours will be able to attend an Urgent Care Clinic in their community.

In your community

General Practices have been expanding throughout the Western Australian community. Many now offer services into the evening and on weekends. These practices are a great opportunity to provide good urgent care to patients that become ill or injured outside normal business hours.

A McGowan Labor Government will enter into a formal arrangement with a range of General Practices. These practices will be licensed to operate as Urgent Care Clinics and will be promoted as part of the Urgent Care Clinic network.

The community based Urgent Care Clinic will work in partnership with the local emergency department. They will have a direct line of communication with the local emergency department and will be able

to prioritise patients referred to the emergency department if their condition deteriorates or warrants a higher level of care.

Urgent Care Clinics based in the community will be bulk billed through Medicare and will provide an extra level of care to ensure health services are readily available without a long wait in emergency departments and delivered where people live, when they need it.

Driving Change

A McGowan Labor Government will promote the Urgent Care Clinic network through a dedicated awareness campaign. The campaign will be designed to give people the confidence to use this as an alternative to attending emergency departments for less urgent matters.

The integration of Urgent Care Clinics into our major emergency departments and community settings will reduce the pressure on our hospitals and deliver more responsive and appropriate care to WA patients.

With ambulance ramping at an all-time high it is important to look at ways of improving access to health care. Rather than making people sit in a busy emergency department, WA Labor will provide an alternative setting to access medical services.

Urgent Care Clinics will provide the sort of care that means people get the care they need when they need it.



URGENT CARE CLINICS

markmcgowan.com.au/UCC |  **Mark McGowan MP**