



Convenient Care Association

## FACT SHEET

### Convenient Care Clinics: Addressing Unmet Needs

The demand for affordable, accessible health care is why convenient care clinics (CCCs), based in high-traffic retail outlets with adjacent pharmacy services, have flourished. An extension to primary care, CCCs have provided more than 3.5 million patients with assistance related to common ailments, physicals, health screenings, vaccinations and preventative care.

### Public Health Benefits

#### Accessibility

- CCCs complement traditional healthcare delivery systems by serving as an entry point for care; they take pressure off of overburdened physician practices and emergency rooms
- Nearly 1000 locations exist in retail-based locations
- CCCs are a critical public health ally for the 30-40 percent of the American population that does not have a primary care provider or insurance
- Most clinics are open every day, including extended weekday and weekend hours
- Appointments are not necessary
- CCCs treat a limited list of conditions – strep throat, pink eye, ear infections, mononucleosis – and provide vaccinations, keeping visits to about 15 minutes

#### Affordability

- A national study says retail-based clinics are 30-80 percent less expensive than other providers (ER, Urgent Care, Community Health Clinics)
- Clinics generally accept many insurance plans
- Prices are intended to be affordable for patients without health insurance
- Pricing is clearly posted, so patients can review costs before receiving services

#### Quality

- CCCs comply with all state and local health regulations
- Practitioners are fully credentialed
- Nurse practitioners, the main providers of CCC care, have a Master's-level degree
- Practitioners adhere to evidence-based guidelines to diagnose and treat patients
- CCA members' guidelines incorporate AMA, AAP, and AAFP requirements
- CCCs follow applicable OSHA, CLIA, HIPAA, ADA and CDC requirements and guidelines
- CCCs use electronic medical records to help improve patients' long-term quality of care

#### Continuity of Care

- CCCs have local referral networks of healthcare providers for patients
- With a patient's consent, CCCs forward electronic or printed records of visits to their primary care provider, if they have one, or help them find one if they do not

*About the CCA: CCA is a national non-profit organization comprised of leaders of the convenient care industry. CCA members, who represent more than 90 percent of the industry, operate more than 950 CCCs in 28 states.*