



Children Are Visiting Urgent Care in Growing Numbers—Does That Match Your Experience?

Jucm has devoted a lot more space to covering aspects of providing urgent care for children. In this very issue there's a new original research article on how long the SARS-CoV-2 virus lasts in children who may or may not be symptomatic (see page 23). And if you look at our Masthead, you'll notice we've even engaged a pediatric urgent care provider to provide guidance and to help us ensure we're conveying the right information when it comes to treating younger patients.

These are not random choices. They reflect changes we've observed in the urgent care industry—changes that are now

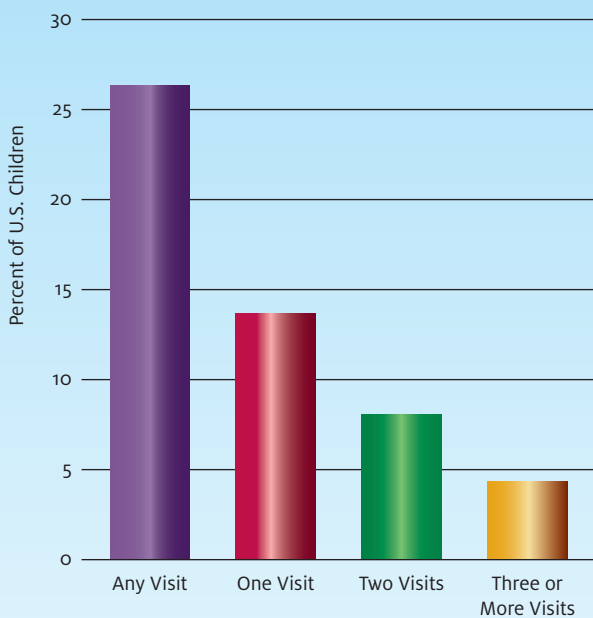
being quantified by research by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Most recently, the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics published data revealing that more than a quarter of children in the United States visited an urgent care center or other walk-in facility in 2019. Many of those patients visited multiple times. And it stands to reason that their parents would become return visitors, as well.

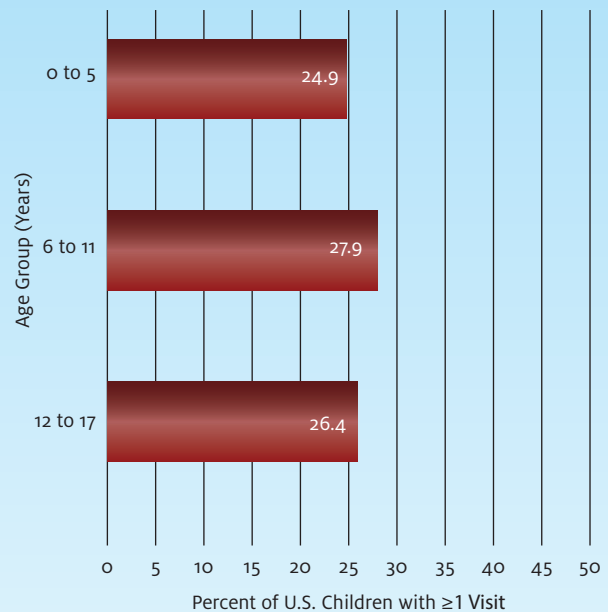
Check out the graphs below for more detail. ■

CHILDREN VISITING URGENT CARE AND RETAIL CLINICS

U.S. Children (Age 0–17 Years) with One or More Visits to an Urgent Care or Retail Clinic in 2019



Pediatric Visits to Urgent Care and Retail by Age Group



Data source: Black LI, Zablotsky B. Urgent care center and retail health clinic utilization among children: United States, 2019. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for Health Statistics. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/databriefs/db393.htm>. Accessed January 8, 2020.