Chapter I: Health Care

Picture Story
What is happening in these pictures?

Emergency Room
- What is an emergency room?
- Where do you go for an emergency?

Primary Care
- Where do you go for basic health care?
- When was your last checkup?
**Word List**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Picture</th>
<th>Word</th>
<th>How do I say it?</th>
<th>What does it mean?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Appointment</td>
<td>uh POINT ment</td>
<td>A time to meet or agree to see someone</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Checkup</td>
<td>CHECK up</td>
<td>A visit to the doctor when you are not sick, also called a well visit</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Co-pay</td>
<td>CO paa</td>
<td>When you pay a set fee every time you go to the doctor and your health insurance pays the rest</td>
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<td>Emergency</td>
<td>ee MER gen see</td>
<td>When there is a serious problem and you need help right away</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Health insurance</td>
<td>In SHER uns</td>
<td>A program where you pay each month and then the program pays for your health care</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Medical interpreter</td>
<td>in TERP ret er</td>
<td>A person who is trained to translate for doctors and patients</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Primary care center</td>
<td></td>
<td>A place you go for basic health care needs. It could be a health center, clinic or doctor’s office</td>
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</table>
Where do I go for health care?

- When you are well, see your doctor for a **checkup**. Your doctor will look for problems you do not see or feel. Finding a health problem early may save your life.

- When you are sick, go to your **primary care center**. Your primary care center is the place you go for all your basic health care needs. Call your primary care center to make an **appointment**.

- When you have an **emergency**, go to the hospital emergency room or call 911. An emergency is when you have a serious medical problem that needs to be addressed right away.

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**The best way to pay for health care is to have health insurance.**

To learn how you can get health insurance and how to get help paying for it, call **1-800-318-2596** or go to the Health Insurance Market Place, [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov)
Maria’s Story

Read the story and answer the questions.

1. Last year, Maria was sick. She did not go to the doctor. One night she could not breathe. Her husband took her to the emergency room. She stayed in the hospital for three days.

2. Maria is sick again. She has a bad cough. She does not want the cough to get worse. She does not want to go to the emergency room. She calls the health center to make an appointment. She also asks for an interpreter.

3. At the health center they ask Maria, “What is your name?” They ask, “Do you have health insurance?” Maria gives them her health insurance card.

4. They give her a form to fill out. The form is in English only. Maria asks if they have the form in Spanish. Maria asks for an interpreter.

Writing

1. Why did Maria go to the emergency room?

2. Why does she make an appointment at the health center?

3. What do they ask Maria when she arrives at the health center?

4. Why does she ask for an interpreter?
Speaking

Practice this dialogue with a partner.

Dialogue

Health Center: Hello, health center. How may I help you?
Patient: Hello, this is Fatima Tuma. I want to make an appointment.
Health Center: How do you spell your name?
Patient: T U M A
Health Center: What is the problem?
Patient: I have a headache and sore throat.
Health Center: Do you have a fever?
Patient: No, I don’t.
Health Center: Okay, come in tomorrow at 10 am.
Patient: Thank you.

Dialogue

Health Center: Hello, health center. How may I help you?
Patient: Hello, this is ________________. I want to make an appointment.
Health Center: How do you spell your name?
Patient: ____________________.
Health Center: What is the problem?
Patient: I have _____________ and _______________.
Health Center: Do you have a fever?
Patient: ____________________.
Health Center: Okay, come in _______________ at 10 am.
Patient: Thank you.
Practice

1. What is your name? _____________________________________________________

2. What is your address? ___________________________________________________

3. What is your phone number? _____________________________________________

4. What is your email address? _____________________________________________

5. Where do you go for health care? ________________________________________

6. What health insurance do you have? _______________________________________

Find these words in the word search puzzle.

- Appointment
- Copay
- Insurance
- Breathe
- Cough
- Interpreter
- Checkup
- Emergency
- Patient

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Action

Find a local health center. Make an appointment.

Step 1: Use a phone book, call 211, or use the internet.

Step 2: Search for a health center near you.

- Health center name __________________________________________________
- Health center phone number _________________________________________
- Health center address _____________________________________________

Step 3: Call the health center to make an appointment for a checkup.

What is 211?

211 is a phone service that tells you information about free and low-cost services near you. To learn more, call 211 now.

Websites

Center for Medicaid and Medicare
http://www.cms.hhs.gov/apps/contacts

Health Insurance Market Place
http://www.healthcare.gov

MedlinePlus: Recognizing Medical Emergencies