



Lunch & Learn: 24-Hour Nurse Line

April 2025



Agenda

- About the 24-Hour Nurse Line & Team
- How It Works & Benefits to You!
- Services Offered
- Referrals
- "Let's Talk" Nurse Dialogue

1-800-556-1555 (TTY: 711)

About the 24-Hour Nurse Line What is a 24-Hour Nurse Line?

 A 24-Hour Nurse Line is a service that offers patients access to licensed nurses who are available around the clock, providing health advice and information

Purpose:

 To promote effective healthcare decision making, improve quality of care and increase member satisfaction.

1-800-556-1555 (TTY: 711)

About the team

ABOUT THE TEAM:

We have approximately 70 nurses in our department

Each RN licensed in all 50 states and must maintain licensure status each year

We are a unique nurse line in that our nurses are the first person the member reaches when they call our line

All nurses work-fromhome

NURSING **BACKGROUND: Emergency Room** ICU Maternity – Mom/Baby Cardiac/Pulmonary Med/Surg Oncology **Internal Medicine** Home Health/Rehab And many others

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How it Works

Our nurses use a standard call procedure that includes:

- Discussing the nature of the call
- Listening to the problem or symptoms of the member
- Asking a series of questions based on the Healthwise call review protocol
- We provide the member with safe options at the end of the call
- Members should call 911 in an emergency

*Nurses cannot diagnose, prescribe or give medical advice

What can a Nurse Line help with?

Medical concerns

Guidance on managing symptoms (e.g. fever, pain, or injury) Help in understanding when to visit the ER vs. when to manage care at home

Health questions

Medication dosage, side effects, and general health advice

Health Education

Basic information about conditions, diseases, or preventative measures

Benefits of a 24-Hour Nurse Line

Convenience

• Access to advice at any time, eliminating the need to wait for office hours.

Peace of Mind

• Knowing that medical professions are available to help at any hour.

Cost-Effective

- Reduces unnecessary ER visits or doctor appointments for non-emergency issues
- This is a free service to you all!

Accessibility

• Helps patients who may not have immediate access to a doctor.



Referrals

Our department is the first line of contact for most of our members.

When a member calls, and we identify the need for a referral to other departments....we ask for the member's permission to make the referral and process the referral for the correct department/service.

Let's Talk: Nurse Edition



A parent calls about their child's sudden fever in the middle of the night to determine whether it's an emergency.



A patient calls about a recent injury to determine if it requires medical attention or can be managed at home.



A person wants advice on managing a chronic condition or understanding symptoms they are experiencing.



Questions to ask your Nurse

- What kind of care should I get?
- Can you give me information about this diagnosis?
- How should I take my medication?
- Should I go to the emergency room?
- Should I call my doctor?
- Where is my Personal Health Record?
- Where do I find information on (diabetes, hypertension, etc.)?



What We Can & Cannot Do:

24-Hour Nurse Line

Nurses can respond to:

Chronic Problems Diagnostic Testing Going to the Doctor Planned Surgery

Emergency Needs

Behavioral Health Needs (e.g., Depression)

Review Medications

24-Hour Nurse Line

Nurses are unable to respond to:

Claim Concerns

Benefit Review

Provider Research

Clinical Policy Bulletin (CPB) Interpretation

How to Access the 24-Hour Nurse Line

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96%

of members said the 24-Hour Nurse Line helped them make a better health care decision¹

¹ 24-Hour Nurse Line Member Satisfaction Survey. October 2019

Health information is a phone call away

- Get information on a wide range of health and wellness topics
- Make better health care decisions
- Find out more about a medical test or procedure
- Get help preparing for a visit to your doctor
- Receive emails with links to videos related to your question or topic

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Highlighted Success Story: A Spanish-speaking 60-year-old male experiencing chest pain called Health Concierge, where an interpreter facilitated his transfer to a 24-hour nurse line for assessment. Despite declining emergency services, he drove himself to the ER, where continued collaboration among nurses, interpreters, and medical teams ensured immediate, life-saving care and a positive outcome.

Important Information:

Aetna Health Concierge:

1-833-690-1037

Eligibility and Enrollment Support Center:

1-855-859-0966

24 Hour Nurse Line:

1-800-566-1555 (TTY: 711)

Member Inquiries:

shpmemberinquiries@nctreasurer.com

Presentation:

www.shpnc.org/presentation-archive

