

Sources of Potentially Avoidable Emergency Department Visits, 2013–2014

Visits from the **community**

1 in **5*** 

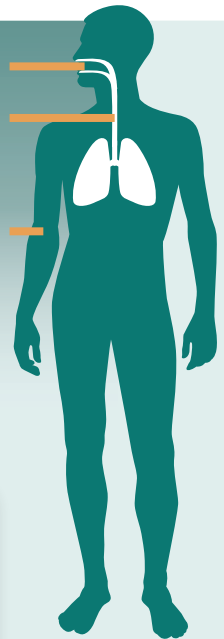
visits were for conditions that could be treated at a **doctor's office** or **clinic**

- Of these, **34%** were for upper respiratory infections, sore throats and antibiotic therapies
- Nearly **3×** as likely for children younger than 5 as for seniors 85 and older
- Nearly **2×** as likely for rural patients as for urban patients

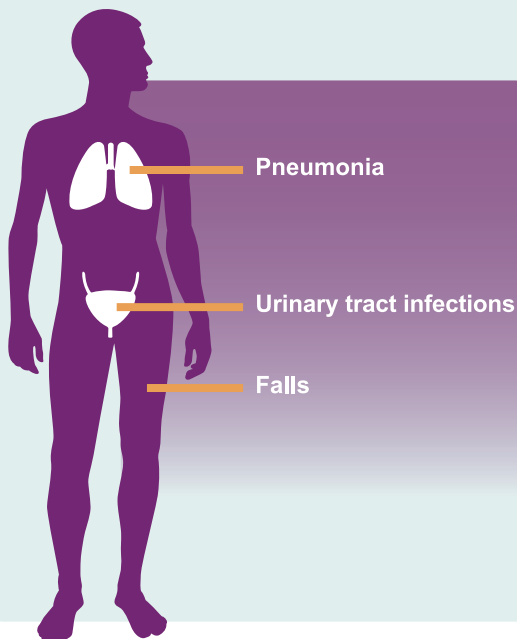
Upper respiratory infections

Sore throats

Antibiotic therapies



More than **1.4 million** visits to Canadian EDs were **potentially avoidable**



Pneumonia

Urinary tract infections

Falls

Visits from **long-term care**

1 in **3**  **seniors in long-term care** made an ED visit

24% of visits were for potentially preventable conditions; of these, 56% were for pneumonia and urinary tract infections

10% of visits were less- or non-urgent; a quarter of these were because of falls†

Notes

* Includes only visits where patients were discharged home and not admitted to a hospital bed.

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ED: Emergency department.

Data for visits from the community is from Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Yukon.

Data for visits from long-term care is from Ontario, Alberta and Yukon.