



# Transitioning Infusion Care to Outpatient Infusion Centers

How outpatient clinics are transforming the overall healthcare system

## Overview

Healthcare is undergoing a dramatic transformation across many dimensions. This includes the technology used to diagnose and treat medical conditions, the evolution of the roles who manage patient health (i.e, the advent of Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants), the therapies themselves (gene therapy and biologics), and the place where the treatment is provided.

Many of these trends are either driving the costs down directly, or at least forcing a reevaluation of what medical services are covered through insurance. This trend is creating more pressure from the payors, including insurance companies and government agencies (Medicare and Medicaid) alike.

## Trend toward outpatient facilities

Outpatient clinics are medical facilities where patients receive medical care or treatment without being admitted to a hospital. These clinics are designed to provide care for patients who do not require an overnight stay, such as those with minor illnesses or injuries, or those undergoing diagnostic tests or procedures. Outpatient clinics offer a range of services, including medical consultations, diagnostic tests, treatment for chronic conditions, minor surgeries, rehabilitation, and infusion therapies.

Outpatient clinics are typically more affordable than hospital care and allow patients to receive timely and appropriate medical attention. They are also convenient for patients who need



**20%**

compound annual growth rate (CAGR) expected in ambulatory infusion market from 2019 to 2024.<sup>[1]</sup>

**\$10 billion**

U.S. dollar estimated to spend in the ambulatory infusion market in 2024.<sup>[1]</sup>

1. Bradley, P. (2022, March 31). State of the Ambulatory Infusion Services Market. Edgemont, from <https://www.edgemont.com/insights/state-of-the-ambulatory-infusion-services-market/>

frequent or ongoing medical care as they can schedule appointments around their other responsibilities.

## The rise of alternate care

Alternate care settings, such as outpatient clinics, urgent care centers, and ambulatory surgery centers, are gaining popularity for several reasons:

### Lower cost

Alternate care settings are often less expensive than traditional hospital care because they are designed to provide specific types of care more efficiently than can be performed at hospitals.

### Convenience

Alternate care settings are usually located closer to patients' homes, making them more convenient to access. They often have flexible hours and shorter wait times, which is attractive to patients.

### Improved patient experience

Alternate care settings tend to offer a more personalized experience for patients. This is because they are often smaller and more focused on specific types of care, which allows for better communication and more attention to individual patient needs.

### Reduced risk of infection

Alternate care settings can reduce the risk of infection compared to hospital care, as they generally see fewer critically ill patients and have less exposure to infectious diseases.

### Technological advancements

Advances in medical technology have made it possible for many procedures and treatments to be performed outside of hospitals.

Overall, alternate care settings are gaining popularity because they provide patients with convenient, affordable, and high-quality care that meets their specific needs.

## Choosing infusion treatments

Many ailments (cancer, autoimmune disorders, and gastroenterological) are best treated through infusion therapies, specifically—intravenously (IV)—when the medicine needs to be delivered directly into the bloodstream. The table on the right shows several examples of these conditions and the drugs used.

Because of the wide array of infusion treatments that are commonplace to treat so many conditions, and the other factors cited in the previous section (lower costs, convenience, and superior patient experience) infusion clinics are growing rapidly and gaining wide acceptance as a way to receive medical treatments.

## Oncology and ambulatory Infusion clinics

Chemotherapy and other infusion therapies can take place in a variety of settings, and will be used depending on many factors—prioritizing the most effective treatment for the patient while balancing that with quality of life impact.

## Examples of infusion treatments

Condition	Drug examples
Rheumatoid Arthritis	Remicade
Osteoarthritis	Remicade
Sarcoidosis	Remicade
Multiple Sclerosis	Ocrevus, Tysabri
Crohn's disease	Remicade, Entyvio, Tysabri
Ulcerative colitis	Remicade, Entyvio, Tysabri
Antibiotics	Many types
TPN, Enteral	Nutritional supplements
Asthma	Xolair, Fasenra
Myasthenia gravis	Soliris
Urticaria	Xolair

An oncology infusion center is a specialized medical facility that provides chemotherapy treatments, including intravenous (IV), to patients with cancer. These centers are focused on chemotherapy only, and are also operated with efficiency to make the infusion services highly cost effective. These centers provide a comfortable and convenient alternative to hospital-based infusion therapy, allowing patients to receive their treatments in a more relaxed and personalized setting.

An ambulatory infusion center (AIC) is also a medical facility or clinic that provides outpatient infusion therapies outside of the traditional hospital setting done over a short period (1-3 hours) instead of during a lengthy or overnight hospital stay. While AICs typically deliver infusion therapies for many areas, chemotherapy is among them. Aside from the fact that the patient population at an AIC seeks treatment for areas other than cancer, the centers look and feel exactly the same as oncology infusion centers.

## Choosing the right infusion system

Products distributed by Intuvie—namely the Z-800 series—are commonplace in these infusion centers. The Z-800 series is an easy-to-use large-volume infusion pump that has intuitive programming. Furthermore, it is built for easy-to-load IV sets that drive clinical workflow productivity. The Z-800 is also designed for long-term reliability. Because of this design, pump downtime and repairs are minimal. Finally, the choice of infusion modes make the Z-800 series pump extremely versatile for alternate care settings.



*Products distributed by Intuvie can be found in various alternate care*

Intuvie is a leading distributor of infusion systems and accessories in alternate care settings. We provide products that are designed with a single objective in mind—to simplify the infusion experience for both patients and clinicians. Our product portfolio addresses many facets of infusion therapy delivered at clinics and at home.

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