## Walmart opens 5 new clinics in Florida with same approach of low costs and convenience as its Supercenters

**Article** 





The news: Walmart opened five new Walmart Health centers across Florida. This news comes six months after it announced plans to expand its clinic presence in Florida.

**Unpacking Walmart's health centers:** Walmart offers a one-stop shop approach to healthcare, much like its retail experience.

- Walmart Health centers offer everything from primary care, lab testing, and imaging, to dental care, psychiatric care, and counseling.
- Walmart Health offers <u>low</u>, one-time charges for primary care services. This differs from entrants like **One Medical**, which <u>require</u> annual subscriptions. One Medical's subscription is \$200, for context.

How we got here: Walmart launched its first health clinic in 2019, and it's kicked expansion into high gear since.

- In June 2020, it <u>acquired</u> prescription management platform **CareZone** to expand medication management and delivery services to its customers.
- In September 2020, it <u>struck a deal</u> with Medicare-focused primary care company **Oak Street** Health to integrate its primary care services into three major supercenters.
- In May 2021, Walmart <u>acquired</u> telehealth provider **MeMd**. This gave Walmart the competitive edge of having both in-person and virtual care services.
- In September 2021, Walmart <u>tapped</u> Epic to connect its healthcare services (including virtual care) with Epic's EHR platform.
- And in October, it <u>partnered</u> with health benefits company **Transcarent** to make its retail clinics, telehealth services, and prescription benefits available to Transcarent members.

What's next? Walmart is encroaching on the primary care space with its hybrid in-person and virtual model of care. And it's big enough to capitalize on the D2C healthcare and employer benefits markets.

- In H1' 2021, over one-quarter (27%) of funded digital health companies operated on a D2C model. That's up from 22% last year, per Rock Health.
- Many employers are <u>turning to</u> virtual care to clamp down on rising healthcare costs without sacrificing quality of care.



- Walmart is entering the game from a very powerful seat. It already has higher customer loyalty than other leading retailers and a large physical footprint of around 3,600 supercenters, per Insider.
- Plus, its affordable prices and one-stop-shop model could edge out competitors like
  VillageMD and CVS MinuteClinic.





