

GET THE FACTS

ABOUT UMASS MEMORIAL'S 8 EAST UNIT

As a safety-net hospital and the only Level 1 Trauma Center in Central Massachusetts, the University Campus Emergency Department is the region's tertiary referral center for pediatrics, stroke patients and cardiovascular emergencies.

Today, this important community resource is being severely challenged in its ability to fulfill its mission to those who depend on it. We face a critical shortage of inpatient medical-surgical beds to meet the needs of patients who require our life-saving care. To add 18 new critically needed medical-surgical beds, we plan to reduce our inpatient psychiatry unit on the University Campus from 27 to 14 beds. This decision was made after careful consideration of the needs of our behavioral health patients and important facts:

- 70%** of the patients admitted to 8 East today do not require a medical psychiatric bed and could be well cared for in a freestanding psychiatric facility without medical support.
- 14** renovated inpatient psychiatry beds at the University Campus will meet the needs of our medically complex patients who require inpatient psychiatric care.
- 275** new inpatient psychiatry beds have opened or are opening within 30 miles of the Medical Center this year. UMass Memorial has reserved 14 beds in one of these new facilities to offset the reduction of beds on 8 East.
- 120** new inpatient psychiatry beds would be built in Worcester over the next two years through a proposed UMass Memorial joint venture.
- 16,254** medical/surgical patients boarded in the Emergency Department (ED) of the Medical Center's University Campus in FY 2016. Boarding threatens to compromise patient health and safety. Boarding is defined as any patient who is waiting more than two hours within the ED after a physician determines the need to admit to an inpatient floor (acute care/ICU level of care).
- 539** critically ill or injured patients from our region were transferred to hospitals outside of Central Massachusetts in 2016 because UMass Memorial did not have the inpatient capacity to care for them. When minutes count and while suffering from acute, life-threatening illnesses and injuries, these patients endured trips of 40 or more miles for life-saving care.

UMass Memorial is committed to meeting the health care needs of **all** of our patients. Thank you to our dedicated caregivers and our community partners for their support in making this very necessary change.

We invite you to learn more at www.umassmemorial.org/criticalneed.



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