

UMASS MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER: ANSWERING A CRITICAL NEED IN OUR REGION

As a safety-net hospital and the only Level 1 Trauma Center in Central Massachusetts, the University Campus emergency department serves as 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.

The University Campus faces an almost daily challenge of too few beds for the large numbers of critically ill people waiting to be transferred or admitted for care. This creates potential patient safety issues not only on the University Campus but also across Central Massachusetts.

To address this issue, we need to add more medical-surgical beds at the University Campus of our Medical Center.

- To do so, we will reconfigure our 8 East inpatient psychiatry unit and adjacent space on University Campus, closing 13 beds to make room for 18 new, critically-needed medical-surgical beds.
- To continue to serve the needs of our medically complex psychiatric patients, we will maintain 14 medical-psychiatric beds on 8 East and invest in renovation of space to better meet the needs of patients and caregivers. It's important to note that the University Campus averages six to eight acute care psychiatric patients at any given time.
- An important factor in this decision is the availability of new resources in Central Massachusetts for patients requiring inpatient psychiatric services. This year, more than 275 new psychiatric beds have opened or are expected to come online in the next few months so we are confident that the non-medically complex psychiatric needs of these patients can be met.
- As we change to meet the needs of our community, we know the critical role we play in Central Massachusetts. Deciding to close psychiatric beds was not an easy decision, however, we did so only after a careful and thoughtful process with the best interests of our community at heart.

Thank you to our 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.



UMass Memorial Health Care

UMass Memorial - Clinton Hospital | UMass Memorial - Community Healthlink | UMass Memorial - HealthAlliance Hospital
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The Clinical Partner of UMass Medical School