



February 17, 2023

Dear Healthcare Partners:

As you know, in May 2020, Adventist HealthCare worked with the state of Maryland to open a COVID-19 Alternate Care Site (ACS), one of five such sites in the state dedicated to caring for those impacted by COVID-19. Since then, the ACS in Takoma Park at the site of the former Washington Adventist Hospital has played a vital role in the recovery of more than 4,000 COVID-19 patients and supported hospitals and health facilities in the region during the pandemic's surges.

Over the last year, effective vaccines and new treatments have helped to ease COVID-19's strain. With the end of the federal Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 on May 11 and as our communities continue to transition into a new phase of the pandemic, the capabilities that the alternative care sites provided to the state will be transitioned back to acute-care hospitals and other appropriate care sites.

Admissions to the ACS will stop on Monday, February 20, 2023. Please note that with the current COVID admissions landscape, any referrals to the ACS over the weekend will be on an extenuating circumstances basis only. The current patients in the care of the ACS will continue to receive services there until discharge. Adventist HealthCare will decommission the site by April 28.

Those providers that may need support in facilitating critical care transfers in Maryland should continue to use the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) via the Critical Care Coordination Center (C4).

Adventist HealthCare has been grateful to extend its tradition of healing in Takoma Park. As was the case prior to COVID-19, once the hospital is decommissioned, the health system will explore the best future use of the campus.

It has been an honor to partner together to care for those in our community most acutely impacted by COVID-19.

Sincerely,

Brent Reitz
President, Post-Acute Care Services
Adventist HealthCare

Laura Herrera Scott, MD, MPH
Secretary
Maryland Department of Health