

# Mayo Clinic Health System – Albert Lea and Austin

## Working together to provide quality health care, now and for the future

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Starting this fall, Mayo Clinic Health System – Albert Lea and Austin will begin to adjust services on both campuses to ensure patients can continue to receive quality health care close to home, now and in the future. We are committed to maintaining vibrant, thriving health care facilities in both Albert Lea and Austin.

## What is Changing

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Overnight hospitalization services for serious illness or injury, ICU, childbirth and major surgeries requiring hospitalization (e.g. hip replacement) will be consolidated in Austin. This is less than 5 percent of the services that our patients need. Inpatient behavioral health services will be consolidated in Albert Lea.

## What is Not Changing

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The vast majority – more than 95 percent – of the care currently provided in Albert Lea and Austin will remain unchanged. This includes primary, specialty and emergency care, as well as outpatient (same-day) surgeries and procedures, prenatal care, cancer care, pharmacy, radiology and laboratory services.

You will continue to see your regular health care providers in Albert Lea and Austin.

## Why is Change Needed

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We need to make changes in how health care services are delivered to ensure we can provide high-quality and affordable services to the community, now and in the future. No community is immune to the challenges in today's health care landscape, such as staffing shortages, rising costs and a sharp shift in demand from inpatient (hospital) to outpatient care delivery. In order to keep the most-used care available, we need to reduce duplication of the most expensive and staff-intensive services by consolidating them on one campus.

By proactively adjusting our services now, we'll be able to offer higher levels of care to patients in larger, state-of-the-art units. We'll be able to invest more in the latest technology and equipment because we won't be staffing and equipping two identical units on two campuses.

## Decreasing Demand for Inpatient (Hospital) Services

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- There has been nearly a 50 percent decrease in hospitalized patients in the last 20 years
- Each campus averages 20 or fewer hospitalized patients per day (excluding the psychiatric unit and addiction services)
- On average, there are only one or two inpatient (hospital) surgeries completed per day on each campus
- On average, there is only one birth per day on each campus
- As a result, there are no longer enough patients to continue staffing two inpatient (hospital) units, two childbirth units and two ICUs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year

## Our Commitment to Albert Lea and Austin

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As members of the community ourselves, we understand how any changes to hospital services can have an impact – not just on patients and staff, but also on the community's identity. We want you to know that

our work has been guided by an unwavering commitment to both communities, and a goal of keeping high-quality care affordable and available on two strong campuses that are positioned for long-term viability and growth.

We invite you to visit [AlbertLeaAustinFacts.mayoclinic.org](http://AlbertLeaAustinFacts.mayoclinic.org) for regular updates and answers to frequently asked questions.

## Health Care Services That Will Continue to be Available on Both the Albert Lea and Austin Campuses

Doctor visits – primary care (family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics), specialists*
Immunizations, flu shots, well-child checks, annual check-ups
Women’s health care – annual check-ups, gynecology visits, prenatal and postnatal care
Emergency room – both campuses will continue to be Level 4 Trauma Centers
Urgent care/same-day clinic/Express Care
Same-day (outpatient) surgeries and procedures (e.g., colonoscopies, cataract surgeries, orthopedics, etc.)
Laboratory services – blood draws, INRs, urine specimens, medication monitoring
Radiology services – X-rays, scans
Pharmacy services – retail pharmacy, pharmacist consultations about medications
Same therapy services available now (physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, etc.)
Retail services (Mayo Clinic Store for medical equipment and supplies, Optical Shop)

\*Specialties offered at Mayo Clinic Health System – Albert Lea and Austin Campuses: ENT/audiology, eye services, general surgery, orthopedics, sports medicine, podiatry, cardiology, dermatology, endocrinology, neurology, occupational medicine, outpatient addiction services, psychiatry and psychology, pulmonology and sleep medicine

## Health Care Services That Will Be Unique to Each Campus

Available on Albert Lea campus	Available on Austin campus
Cancer Center	Overnight hospitalization for illnesses or treatments
Dialysis	Major surgeries that require hospitalization
Wound care (hyperbaric chamber)	Intensive Care Unit (ICU)
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (HealthReach, Industrial Medicine and therapy services)	Childbirth services (labor and delivery, nursery)
Inpatient behavioral health and addiction services	Pain Clinic

## Timeline for Service Transitions

Albert Lea Special Care Unit transition to Austin ICU – October 2017
Major surgeries (requiring hospitalization) performed on Austin campus – January 2018
Austin Psychiatric Services Inpatient Unit (PSU) moves to Albert Lea campus – Mid-2018*
Remodeling of Austin hospital rooms to accommodate overnight hospitalizations – 2018/early 2019*
Childbirth services transition to Austin campus – 2019/2020*

\*Exact transition dates may be influenced by construction schedules, staffing considerations or other factors