

**April 17, 2020 update to information for healthcare providers about the Medical Monitoring Station (MMS) located at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center**

---

As the MMS census continues to grow, we have identified the need to make a few changes, to ensure safe, quality care for all our patients. The changes include the following:

1. On Wednesday, the MMS temporarily reached capacity to care for non-ambulatory patients. For clarification, we define ambulatory as the ability to ambulate with a cane or walker with minimal assistance. Non-ambulatory patients typically require appropriately equipped hospital-grade beds and enough personnel to safely assist with turning, urination/defecation needs, and other activities of daily living. While the MMS team works to increase our supply of appropriate beds and personnel, the acceptance of non-ambulatory patients will, for the short term, be based on current bed availability. Please continue to refer patients as usual but please be aware of these temporary limitations.
2. Numerous patients have been sent to the MMS with wound care needs exceeding our capability specified by the admission criteria (once daily dressing changes). Several of these patients have come with extensive wounds requiring dressing changes four times daily, specialized beds to prevent wound progression, and wounds that require debridement and inpatient-level care. As a result, the admission criteria is being revised to specify that only stage one decubitus ulcers requiring once daily dressing changes can be accommodated.
3. There is a new “family line” that families and case managers can use to connect with MMS patients. The number is 504-356-2297.
4. A few modifications/clarifications have been made to our information handouts. Please disseminate these handouts to your staff to assist them with the MMS/PHU referral process.

Thank you,

The Convention Center MMS Medical Team