

• FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS •

Where your child receives his/her care may change in the months ahead

What is happening?

Tufts Children's Hospital has been honored to care for your children when they need to be admitted to the hospital for an overnight stay. However, the health care needs of our community are changing. We have approached Boston Children's Hospital (BCH) about a new collaboration and pending regulatory approval, we plan to close our 41 Tufts Children's Hospital inpatient beds and will send pediatric patients who need hospitalization to BCH starting in July of 2022.

Will my child have the same pediatrician and specialists?

We value our pediatrics staff as much as you do! You should continue to see the same physicians you currently do. Should any changes be necessary, we will work closely with you to ensure any transition is as seamless as possible.

My child currently sees Tufts Children's specialists at community hospitals and specialty centers outside of Boston. Will this change impact pediatric care there?

Continue receiving care where you normally do. We have begun discussions with BCH on how to best structure our pediatric services outside of Boston, including our clinics and outpatient surgical areas in the community. We are committed to providing this care close to home and will have more to say in the coming months. In the meantime, Tufts Children's will continue to provide these services to patient families.

I love my current doctors. Will this change be good for my child?

Unless a change in your child's care is needed, your child will continue to receive care by his/her Tufts Children's physician and care team. For patients who may require care at BCH, we are confident we have chosen a very special place for this collaboration. Boston Children's has been voted the number one Children's Hospital eight years in a row by U.S. News and World Report. BCH is committed to work with each patient's Tufts Children's physician and primary care provider to ensure seamless, coordinated care.

I am scheduled to have my baby at Tufts MC this spring. Can that still happen?

Yes. Tufts Medical Center will continue to offer the very best in maternity care, including for moms with high-risk pregnancies. Our neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) will be available at Tufts Medical Center and will be staffed with neonatal specialists to ensure your baby gets the very best care.

What if my child needs to go to the emergency department?

As always, if your child requires emergency care, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency department. Prior to July 2022, our dedicated Tufts Children's emergency department at 755 Washington Street will continue to be open. After July 2022, we will continue to accept pediatric patients in our ED, but will no longer have a dedicated pediatric space.

Do I need to do anything now?

No. Your child's Tufts Children's physician and care team will continue to provide care to your child. Should this change disrupt your child's care, we will work with you, your child's primary care provider and your Tufts Children's physician and care team to develop a transition plan to ensure seamless care.

What if I have questions?

You can find more information on this collaboration at www.tuftschildrenshospital.org/BCH. Parents who have questions can call our special Tufts Children's phone line at 866-978-2339.