

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center
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We invite any media interested in interviewing our VA staff to learn more about care and services to contact our Public Affairs Officer at 989-497-2500, extension 13020 or e-mail carrie.seward@va.gov

Future State of Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center's Acute Care and Telemetry Unit

The Aleda E. Lutz Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center will no longer admit Veterans to the Acute Care and Telemetry Unit, effective October 1, 2019.

After many months of analyzing workload and costs associated with our 8-bed Acute Care and Telemetry (ACT) Unit, it has been determined the efficiency and affordability of continuing to operate this unit is no longer feasible.

Veterans needing acute inpatient care will continue to get their needs met at local community hospitals. If a Veteran presents to the Aleda E. Lutz VA Urgent Care Clinic and it is determined an inpatient level of care is necessary, the VA will make arrangements for the Veteran to be transferred to the appropriate level of care with one of our in-network community partners. This will be at no cost to the Veteran.

Under the MISSION Act, urgent care benefits (non-life threatening concerns) are now available for our Veterans to receive this care closer to their home. Care can be sought at one of our in-network providers. A complete list of in-network providers can be found by accessing <https://www.va.gov/find-locations>. If a Veteran presents directly to an in-network emergency department (life threatening concerns), it is important the VA be contacted within 72 hours of presentation for payment consideration.

Our VA continues to provide outpatient Primary Care, Mental Health, Same-Day Surgery, targeted specialty clinic care, and other ancillary services, as well as residential skilled care and rehabilitation, which includes an end-of-life Palliative Care Unit.

The VA is part of a culturally-changing healthcare system which is transforming to a High Reliability Organization (HRO) to assure optimal quality and safety for the delivery of Veteran care.

The Aleda E. Lutz VAMC in Saginaw, Michigan operates an 81-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation Community Living Center. It provides care to over 36,700 Veterans in a 35-county geographic area, from mid-Michigan to the Mackinac Bridge. Veterans also

receive care at one of our nine VA Community Based Outpatient Clinics located throughout Michigan. More information about this VA can be found at www.saginaw.va.gov.

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