

Chiefs' Chatter

News & Notes from Senior Leadership

The future of healthcare

South Tower at CaroMont Regional Medical Center Set to Open in May

After more than three years of extensive planning, development and construction, the new tower at CaroMont Regional Medical Center is scheduled to open on Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

Formerly referred to as the Critical Care Tower and the Southeast Tower throughout the building process, the official name will be the South Tower. This name clearly reflects the position of the tower in relation to the North Tower and the Main Tower of the hospital.

Readiness validation will be completed on Monday, May 15, with ICU, CCU, CVRU and SICU units moving on Tuesday, May 16 and PICU moving on Wednesday, May 17.

This edition of Chiefs' Chatter includes everything you need to know about the new tower – the unique and innovative features, the care that will be provided on each floor, and how the Operations team has worked to ensure patients and families receive the best care and experience.

EMPLOYEE OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

All CaroMont Health employees, students, volunteers and members of medical staff are invited to drop in for a self-guided tour of the new South Tower at CaroMont Regional Medical Center.

The South Tower is accessible from the Aycock • Digby • Letts Family Center (formerly the Surgery Waiting Area) on Level 1 near the Birthplace. Please follow signs to the Family Center and designated floors of the South Tower.

South Tower: Floor-by-Floor

4TH FLOOR | Intermediate Medical Care Unit (IMCU)

The 4th floor will house the Intermediate Medical Care Unit (IMCU). This unit is a 26-bed medical step-down unit that specializes in the care of unstable patients requiring continuous observation, continuous oxygen and/or telemetry monitoring, non-invasive ventilation, or advanced pharmacological therapy.

Patients on IMCU are most frequently those with respiratory failure, sepsis, diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA) overdose and alcohol withdrawal. The most frequent surgical diagnosis/procedures include Pre/Post GI and urology, stable traumas, and major bowel procedures including abdominal resections and vascular repairs. IMCU cares for adult patients of all ages.



UNIT INFORMATION

Room Numbers:
4401 - 4426

**Units moving to
South Tower:**
PICU

Director:
Emily Magee

Manager:
Matthew McIntosh



South Tower: Floor-by-Floor

5TH FLOOR | Medical Surgical Intensive Care Unit (MSICU)

The 5th floor will house the Medical Surgical Intensive Care Unit (MSICU). This unit is a 26-bed medical-surgical intensive care unit specializing in the care of unstable patients requiring continuous intense observation, advanced pharmacological therapy, mechanical ventilation or invasive monitoring.

Patients on MSICU are most frequently those with respiratory failure, sepsis, overdose, cerebrovascular accidents, neurosurgical needs and trauma. The most frequent surgical diagnosis/procedures include carotid endarterectomies, vascular repairs, thoracotomies and abdominal resections. MSICU cares for adult patients; when obstetric patients are admitted to this unit, assessment/care is provided by both obstetrical and critical care staff.



UNIT INFORMATION

Room Numbers:
5401 – 5426

**Units moving to
South Tower:**
ICU, SICU, Post ICU
South

Director:
Natalie Willis

Interim Manager:
Sabrina Hart



South Tower: Floor-by-Floor

6TH FLOOR | Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit (CVICU)

The 6th floor will house the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit (CVICU). This unit is a 26-bed cardiovascular intensive care unit specializing in the surgical recovery of immediate post-operative cardiothoracic surgery patients, as well as the care of unstable cardiac patients requiring continuous intense observation, advanced hemodynamic monitoring, advanced pharmacological therapy, mechanical ventilation and/or invasive therapy/monitoring.

Patients on CVICU are most frequently those with myocardial infarction, arrhythmias, congestive heart failure, atrial fibrillation, chest pain and pulmonary edema. Primary surgical diagnoses include Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG) surgery, valve replacement/repair surgery, Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) or any surgery requiring cardiopulmonary bypass.

Frequent procedures and treatments performed include mechanical ventilation, pre-/post-cardiac catheterization procedures, intra-aortic balloon pump (IABP) therapy, epicardial and transvenous pacing, and left ventricular assistive device (LVAD) therapy. CVICU cares for adult patients.

UNIT INFORMATION

Room Numbers:
6401 – 6426

**Units moving to
South Tower:**
CVRU, CCU, CVSU

Director:
Natalie Willis

Manager:
Misty Broome



South Tower:

Designed for Care and Comfort

The South Tower project brought together a multi-disciplinary team of medical, clinical, and operational experts from across CaroMont Health to plan, design and build a tower that prioritizes care, comfort, and safety for patients and care teams. Here are just a few of the ways the South Tower will support care teams, patients and families.

PATIENT ROOMS

Each private patient room has more than 320 square feet of space with a full restroom and open shower, large television, in-room sink and hand sanitizer station, multi-point adjustable lighting and large windows with adjustable shades. Each room has a space for family and visitors that includes a seating area and electrical outlets for charging.

All rooms are outfitted with convertible headwalls that provide access to or concealment of connection points for all necessary equipment. A large monitor replaces the communication whiteboard and will allow physicians to display images, labs and other items needed during care updates and decision making. Finally, signs and notifications outside the patient room are replaced by digital displays that provide critical information to care teams and visitors.

PATIENT AND FAMILY EXPERIENCE

In addition to spacious patient rooms, each unit has sound conditioning to minimize noise transfer from hallways and rooms, and hallway lighting that is intentionally placed off center to minimize glare for patients during hallway transport. Each floor has an expansive family lounge with restroom and shower, comfortable seating, tables and chairs, electrical outlets, water/ice dispensers and vending machines.

CARE TEAM ENVIRONMENT

Care Team Stations are located at each end of each unit with medication rooms, nutrition pantries, and medical supply rooms. Documentation stations are shared between each set of patient rooms to provide direct patient line-of-sight accompanied with PPE closets to support patient care needs.

Clinical support and staff areas, such as soiled/clean equipment rooms, are also centrally located to minimize access time. There are also designated break rooms and physician workspaces.

Each unit offers a specially designed physical therapy room and 10-foot hallway markers for progress tracking for documentation; EKG, EEG and Echo; Echo reading space; ABG analyzer; dialysis; portable chest x-ray to deploy for stat needs; and linen closet/blanket warmers in a dedicated space and out of the hallways.



**NATURE THEMED
ART PANELS BRING
COLOR INTO THE SPACE
AND HELP FAMILIES
VISUALLY IDENTIFY
WHERE THEY ARE
ON THE UNIT.**

