



C E N T R A

Alan B. Pearson
Regional Cancer Center

Centra Hematology Oncology Clinics Announcement Frequently Asked Questions

Is the Cancer Center closing?

No. Centra's current locations for cancer care are not changing. The Centra Hematology Oncology Clinics will be initially located within the Centra Alan B. Pearson Regional Cancer Center, which is located at 1701 Thomson Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24501 and at Centra Southside Community Hospital, which is located at 800 Oak Street, Farmville, VA 23901. We are looking at expanding access to other locations over the next several months.

How many providers will be joining the Centra Hematology and Oncology Clinics?

The initial staffing plan for the Centra Hematology Oncology Clinics will consist of 22 providers – 10 Physicians and 12 Advanced Practice Providers ("APPs").

Will the patients be assigned their new doctors prior to March 29th?

To ensure no disruption in patient care, providers will be assigned to see the majority of patients on their currently scheduled appointment dates. Centra is prioritizing patients that require immediate appointments first and then will work on moving all routine follow ups. However, Centra respects patient choice.

If a patient expresses a desire to see another provider within the Cancer Center, we will work to accommodate that; and if patients choose to move their care outside of the Cancer Center, we will support them as they transition their care.

Are these new providers locum providers or permanent/employed providers?

Initially, 1 Physician and 2 APPs will be permanent employees and the rest will be long-term locums (e.g., 6-to-12-month assignments). Some of the long-term locums providers have expressed a desire to consider permanent placement as well. In addition, there are several providers currently considering permanent employment with Centra Hematology Oncology Clinics - 2 Physicians and 1 APP have been extended employment offers and 4 Physicians and 2 APPs are in the interview process, so we expect to have more permanent employed providers very soon.

The locum providers have decades of experience, specific to hematology and oncology. They are coming to Centra from renowned cancer institutions across the country. We are hopeful that some of them will enjoy our community and wish stay with Centra permanently.

Why is Centra opening this new practice?

Lynchburg Hematology and Oncology Clinic ("LHOC") informed Centra of its desire to end their contract with Centra and return to private practice. Centra and LHOC have had a long and successful partnership, which Centra had hoped to continue through a new contract or extension of our current contract. LHOC has declined Centra's offers and remains committed to returning to private practice. As a result, to ensure continuity of care when that relationship ends



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and to ensure services continue without disruption at all current sites of care, we are opening the Centra Hematology and Oncology Clinics.

Is this transition related to the compliance issue / pending lawsuit that was filed?

The two matters are unrelated. As part of a coding and billing audit, Centra discovered coding issues that resulted in overpayments to LHOC, which Centra is required by law to recover. Centra takes all compliance and regulatory matters very seriously but hopes to resolve the matter with LHOC as soon as possible.

Where are the Lynchburg Hematology and Oncology Clinic providers going?

They have not all shared their plans with Centra, however, Dr. Mahmood Rasheed will be staying with Centra and seeing patients in our Centra Southside Hematology Oncology Clinic; and several others have expressed interest in joining Centra permanently, so we look forward to continued discussions with these providers.

Will the radiation oncology group be leaving too?

No, Dr. Angela Brady, Dr. Anita Joy Hilliard and Dr. Michael O'Neill along with Connie Brooks, NP will continue to provide care at the Centra Alan B. Pearson Regional Cancer Center without any change.

Are any other staff changes occurring during this transition?

No, Centra's dedicated Caregivers that have been providing nursing, technical and administrative services to our patients at the Centra Alan B. Pearson Regional Cancer Center and the Southside Hematology Oncology Clinic will not be leaving.

Will my insurance still be accepted?

Yes, if your insurance has been accepted by Centra up until this point in time, this transition will not affect its acceptance going forward.

How will a patients care change?

There will be no disruption to a patient's care. Medical records, treatment plans and ongoing care will be transferred to a new provider with the Centra Hematology Oncology Clinic.

What if a patient desires to move their care to another provider?

Patients have a right to choose. If they wish to move their care to another provider outside of the Centra Hematology Oncology Clinic, they may call the Cancer Center to obtain a copy of their records or to request that we send a copy of their records to another provider. Patients will need to sign a release of information form, which may be obtained from the office by calling (434) 200-5925 and selecting option number 5.