

Change of Pediatric Inpatient Unit to Adult Patient Care

As the first hospital to offer a dedicated Pediatric Emergency Department in our area, Capital Health has always placed importance on the emergency medical needs of the children in our community.

Recently, to best meet the needs of our community, we made changes to the hospital-based approach we are taking to pediatrics.

Our Pediatric ED at Capital Health Medical Center – Hopewell, continues to provide dedicated services to our community 24/7. This is a dedicated space, separate from our adult ED, just for kids.

Children who require brief observation will be cared for as part of our Pediatric Observation program, ensuring a smooth transition of care while being cared for by emergency and pediatric providers.

Because of the low demand for inpatient pediatric admission and the needs we have seen from the community, our prior pediatric inpatient beds have been converted to adult beds with the approval of the NJ Department of Health.

When we looked at the use of the pediatric unit, it tended to have a census of around one pediatric patient admitted for inpatient care at any given time. Because of this, we asked for approval to instead use this unit to meet the very significant demand for adult inpatient services in our community.

In the event a child needs admission, our pediatric team will partner with another hospital offering inpatient services and transfer the child to the most appropriate facility.

We greatly appreciate the trust you have placed in us over the years for pediatric care when an emergency happens. We look forward to continuing to provide that high quality care.

