

New Mexico Medical Advisory Team (MAT) Assessment

Workgroup Name: Hospital & Health System Advisory Group	Date: 3/30/2020
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Question or task for assessment or Protocol name/description

Should NM establish a single COVID 19-only hospital?

Recommendations

There should not be a single COVID-hospital in the state of NM, but a regional approach.

Analysis, including triggers and thresholds if applicable

Due to the broad geography of NM and limited workforce and transportation resources statewide, a single COVID-19 hospital is not recommended. A regional cohort approach is preferred.

The Hospital & Health System Advisory Group is developing a hub and spoke model. The 3 health systems in Albuquerque make up the Central Hub. Regional Hubs are being defined throughout the state. Each Hub will define their COVID 19-cohort strategy based on the resources in their region. For example:

- In Gallup, one hospital may accept and cohort COVID 19-positive admissions and the other hospital may accept all non-COVID 19 admissions.
- In Albuquerque, there are defined hospitals with ICU-capacity that will cohort COVID 19-positive patients. Other hospitals in Albuquerque without adequate COVID 19 resources, or with specialty missions such as heart or women's, may not accept COVID 19-positive patients.

Red flags, major concerns and recommendation sunset

Major concerns preventing a single COVID 19-only hospital solution:

- Broad distances and lack of transportation resources would cripple medical transportation network.
- No single hospital has sufficient ICU-capacity for COVID 19 needs.
- Many COVID 19 patients have multiple comorbid conditions. Few hospitals have resources to for patients with co-morbid conditions (heart attacks, dialysis, etc.).

Gaps in knowledge or science related to topic

n/a

Level of consensus within workgroup

Total	Moderate	Limited
X		

Contributors

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References or resources for further information

n/a