



## UMC President & CEO Jacob Cintron Sends Special Thanksgiving Message To All District Associates

News about COVID-19 is everywhere; some of it helpful and some not. These unprecedented times call on us to serve as a strong, reassuring presence in our community. And I know it's not easy. You are balancing concerns for your families and friends, your health, navigating the changes the pandemic has brought, and, at the same time, never wavering from your commitment to our patients and our community.

The virus has touched each of our lives, some in very real and painful ways, which has made beating COVID-19 a personal fight and despite the uncertainty and stress the virus continues to sow, your response has been nothing short of remarkable. In fact, just this past week, at the request of CMS, the state of Texas visited our hospital to conduct an unannounced survey of our COVID-19 response. The surveyor left and indicated they found zero deficiencies and any negative claims on patient care were completely unsubstantiated. The surveyor left in tears at having seen the incredible work and care we are putting into helping our community.

You should be VERY proud of what you have done. Together we have built a health system we should all be proud of, but more importantly, a system that we are all relying on. Your innovation has allowed us to increase capacity by over 200 beds. Your dedication and expertise has served just over 1,800 COVID positive patients. Day in and day out, YOU have made the difference. You are providing extraordinary care that has saved many lives, but you have also had to grapple with seeing many succumb to this insidious virus.

There are days when the challenge before us seems impossible, yet you have chosen to show kindness, empathy, and professionalism. We are El Paso County Hospital District Strong, and no challenge can diminish the incredible effort you put forth for our patients daily. Your determination and bravery are inspiring and will be what gets us beyond this virus. But we also know this must have a tremendous

impact on you. Please remember to make time for self-care. Our community is counting on us now more than ever. If you can and your department is able, I want you to take time off during this Thanksgiving holiday, the Friday after or the Monday at the end of the weekend.

We are thankful for what you have done and the lives you have contributed to saving. Thank you for your bravery and continued service. As I said after August 3rd, and I will say it again today, as the entire nation watches, you continue to display the best that El Paso and humanity have to offer. I am humbled and proud to work with each of you. During this upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, you are what I am thankful for.

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## UMC Garners Recognition For Excellence In Surgical Care, Quality

University Medical Center of El Paso has garnered the National Surgical Quality Improvement Program's recognition as a meritoriously performing hospital, one of only 88 in the nation to receive this recognition. The American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP) announced recently (October 2020) that UMC is a meritoriously performing ACS NSQIP hospital.



UMC is the largest public hospital on the US / Mexico border and is the only such hospital along the border to receive this recognition. There are two lists of meritorious hospitals:

1. The All Cases Meritorious List
2. High Risk Meritorious List UMC achieved a meritorious score for both cases.

“This recognition and high score attained by our hospital was made possible through the strong and enduring partnership with Texas Tech Physicians of El Paso,” said Jacob Cintron, UMC President & CEO. “Our surgeons from TTP El Paso are among the best in the country because of their dedication, commitment to a high level of excellence and compassion for every patient who comes through our doors. I am proud of our partnership and share this recognition with these exceptional leaders in healthcare.”

Physicians from TTP El Paso share in the recognition and partnership with UMC. “This achievement is a reflection of the hard work by everyone involved with providing surgical care at UMC, and it is something we should all be very proud of,” said Alonso Andrade, MD, FACS, TTP El Paso Surgeon, Assistant Professor and Associate Residency Program Director at TTUSHC El Paso's Department of Surgery, and NSQIP and Surgery Medical Director at University Medical Center of El Paso.

“Of course, the hospital’s commitment to foster a culture of patient safety and quality improvement -- from hospital leadership to all the staff involved in patient care from the peri-op area up to the point the patient is discharged—has been instrumental in achieving this recognition. To have a hospital on the U.S.-Mexico border that serves a predominately Hispanic population receive this recognition is wonderful, and it speaks to the excellent work that is being done by everyone at UMC and TTUHSC El Paso.”

## Veterans Of UMC Are Recognized On Veterans Day

A day that honors the millions of men and women who served our country to protect the rights we have today, Veterans Day was celebrated with a board of all UMC associates who served in the military. The Veterans Day board was on display in the UMC Cafeteria for the entire week allowing associates to view their coworkers or themselves.

**UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER OF EL PASO**

**El Paso Children's HOSPITAL**

**El Paso Health**  
HEALTH PLANS FOR EL PASO AND BY EL PASO

**David Palafox, MD - Administration US Army**

**We Salute Our Military Service Veterans!**

Michael Montgomery US Army UMC Administration	Kelth Adams US Navy UMC IT Dept.	Karen Payne US Air Force UMC IT Dept.	Daniel Lopez US Army UMC Quality Mgmt.	Luis Contreras US Air Force UMC Clinics Quality Dept.	Sabrina Addison US Army UMC Administration	Ramon Diaz-Perez US Army UMC Materials Mgmt.	Ateshia Ellerbee US Army UMC NHC Float Pool	Joshua B Paulette US Army UMC Healthcare Admin.	
Clarissa White US Army UMC HR Dept.	Christopher Hendricks US Army UMC Correctional Health	Daniel Flores US Army UMC Nurse Practitioner	Angie Serna US Army UMC Security Dept.	Victor Vargas-Velazquez US Army UMC OR Dept.	Christen Carbajal US Air Force UMC EVS Dept.	Karen Whittington US Air Force UMC Perop. Svcs.	Jose Chavez US Army UMC Sterile Processing	<i>Not pictured:</i> Andujo, Darlene - ICU US Army Avalos, Victor - Telemetry US Marine Corps Chavez, Carlos - Engineering US Marine Corps Daniels, Lance - Materials Management US Army Enriquez, Arlene D - Human Resources US Navy Figueroa, Miguel - Engineering US Marine Corps Guzman, Luis - NHC Float Pool US Air Force Hernandez, Guillermo - OR US Air Force Hobbs, Maria - Medical Oncology US Army Jesse, Ann - NHC Employee - Clinic US Army Kennedy, Michael - Administration US Marine Corps Kuntz, Ralek - IT US Army Lazo, Carlos - IT US Army Lopez, Luis - Cardiology US Army Mielke, Ryan - Public Affairs US Air Force Moore, Joshua - OR US Army Nunez, Paola - ICU US Navy Parra, Robert - Emergency US Army/Air Force Reyes, Maria Belen - Telemetry/Observation US Air Force Rodriguez, Oscar - Pharmacy US Army Sanchez, Fernando - IT US Marine Corps Torres, Raymond - ASU US Army Valdez, Manuel - Cardiac Cath Lab US Air Force Vidal, Gabriela - Trauma US Navy Whittman, Nadine - OR US Army Wyatt, David - ICU US Army	
James Aguirre US Marines UMC Security Dept.	Alfonso Silva US Navy UMC Internal Auditor	Ruben Chavez US Marines UMC IT Dept.	Jose Rodriguez US Army UMC Imaging Services	Gregory Erickson US Navy UMC Ancillary Services	Bliss Meza US Air Force UMC ADD Dept.	German Coraballo US Army UMC EVS Dept.	Sharon Lashley US Army UMC Sterile Processing	Flavia Diaz-Hays US Army EPCH Quality Management	Deborah Tappen US Army EPCH Nursing Administration

**Attention: ALL ASSOCIATES**

**WHEN ARRIVING AT THE HOSPITAL:**  
Your mask must be worn upon exit of your vehicle.

**WHEN LEAVING THE HOSPITAL:**  
Your mask must be worn upon exit of the hospital until you enter your vehicle.

Thank you for your cooperation.

UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER OF EL PASO

El Paso Children's

