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National Academy of Medicine
Action Collaborative on Decarbonizing the U.S. Health Sector

University of Michigan Health (UMH) is applying to become a Network Organization for the Climate Collaborative. UMH is the clinical enterprise of Michigan Medicine, an academic medical center located in Ann Arbor Michigan. UMHS provides primary, specialty and tertiary patient care services across the continuum of inpatient, ambulatory, home and community-based care. Ambulatory care sites are provided in local communities in various regions of Michigan, part of a statewide network. In addition to a robust ambulatory network, UMHS includes owned inpatient hospital facilities in Ann Arbor and Wyoming, Michigan and affiliate relationships around the state.

UMHS has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship, sustainability and carbon emissions reduction for 25+ years, tracking back to the elimination of a hospital incinerator, replacing it with autoclave technologies designed to crush waste and minimize placement in landfill sites. The health system is actively engaged in initiatives to reduce carbon emissions, including investments in energy conservation initiatives (facility, transportation, supply chain), recycling, reduction, reuse and reprocessing activities, clinical practice delivery changes, waste reduction (composting) et al. UMHS teams are actively engaged in collaboration with the University of Michigan's Carbon Neutrality plan, representing actions to improve environmental protection in the health care sector of the university.

UMHS is involved in health delivery practice changes (e.g. Green Anesthesia Initiative to shift away from nitrous oxide and highly fluorinated gases); health care supply chain, including green purchasing and environmental commitments from suppliers (e.g. materials; local sourcing, etc); health professional education, awareness creation and motivation through communications updates and advocacy for individual and team behavior change, and policy, financing and metrics as evidenced by active participation with key organizations and forums (Practice Greenhealth; Michigan Health and Hospital Association- Green Committee; University of Michigan Carbon Neutrality Commission and Implementation Team. Progress reports with dashboard metrics to measure efficiency per square foot and patient day are provided

periodically to maintain momentum and provide education to organization, for affirmation of progress or to signal adjustments to stay on course.

UMH has received a recognition award for environmental excellence and sustainability from Practice Greenhealth each year since 2004. A new hospital is under construction, designed to achieve LEED platinum recognition with significant investment to achieve energy efficiencies at 20+% greater than standards.