UPMC Life Changing Medicine

UPMC | POLICY MATTERS

Across UPMC, teams are advancing initiatives that strengthen workplace safety, improve access to care, support healthier communities, and reinforce our commitment to excellence.

This edition of Policy Matters highlights continued systemwide efforts to foster a culture of safety, as well as recent achievements in accelerating environmental sustainability and expanding access to specialty care. These initiatives reflect the many ways UPMC continues to make a positive impact for patients and communities across the regions we serve.

System Spotlight

Standing Together for Safety at UPMC

UPMC continues to prioritize employee safety through a comprehensive approach that includes listening sessions, safety rounds, and ongoing evaluations of preparedness and prevention. From investments in training and security to employee engagement and systemwide safety initiatives, these efforts are focused on helping staff feel supported in creating safer environments across the organization.



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UPMC Safety Listening Sessions and Safety Rounds Strengthen Workplace Safety

Through workplace safety listening sessions and leadership rounds across 39 plus UPMC hospitals, hospital leaders are engaging directly with frontline staff to better understand concerns, gather feedback, and identify opportunities to strengthen safety practices. Since launching in October, these conversations provide a valuable forum for open dialogue, allowing teams to share real-world experiences, discuss challenges, and highlight successful practices.

Learn more

WASHINGTON

Sandy Rader, President, UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside, Reflects on Safety as Part of Day-to-Day Culture

Sandy Rader, president, UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside, emphasizes that safety is a daily practice rather than a one-time effort. She highlights a focus on data clarity, action, and a culture of safety concept, tackle-it-off reports that engage patients and families in care decisions, and robust preparedness efforts, including active shooter drills. She notes that recent safety wins it has contributed to the design of UPMC's new Sarah Tower, including enhanced security, staff wellness, patient safety, employee well-being, and overall hospital security.

Learn more

Health Policy in Focus



UPMC Commemorates 36th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act

The UPMC Office of Inclusion and Diversity hosted a celebration of the 36th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on July 22 at the UPMC Mercy Pavilion conference center in Pittsburgh.

The event brought together employees, advocates, and community members to recognize the ADA's lasting impact on accessibility, inclusion, and equal opportunity. It also highlighted UPMC's ongoing efforts to support individuals with disabilities and fostering an inclusive environment for all.



UPMC Terrace Opens at Pittsburgh International Airport, Celebrating Community and Well-Being

"The UPMC Terrace is much more than an airport amenity that we just've name on," says Dr. James Taylor, senior vice president and chief culture, community and talent management officer, UPMC. "It is a special community space that reflects the heart of Pittsburgh and the region. It's a place for healthier, more welcoming travel experience and reinforces Pittsburgh's identity as a city that values innovation, wellbeing, and community connection."

Learn more

Advocacy in Action



UPMC Center for Sustainability Honored with 2025 Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence

Key accomplishments included donating more than 150,000 pounds of unused medical supplies through Global Links, redistributing 62,000 pounds of surplus food to local food banks, and diverting 1.4 million pounds of waste. Single-use blood pressure cuffs per month by transitioning to reusable alternatives, and restoring the use of thousands of single-use products across UPMC facilities.

Pa. Agriculture Secretary Tours Williamsport Gardens Tackling Food Insecurity

Russell Redding, Pennsylvania secretary of agriculture, recently visited the Bowman Arms Il Pact Plant Community Garden and Urban Farm in Williamsport. The visit highlighted efforts to address food insecurity through local food production, community partnerships, and sustainable agricultural practices. The garden, supported by UPMC and other community contributors, provides a year-round food hub and year-powered irrigation, produce donations for a teaching kitchen, and employee volunteerism.

UPMC Altoona Joins Regional Leaders for Conversation on Community Health and Economic Prosperity

UPMC Altoona joined regional and sunking officer joined U.S. Rep. John Joyce, Pennsylvania 9th, Julia Pezzi, Ron Dzinkiss, PhD, Penn State Altoona chancellor, Jamie Frueh, City of Altoona Main Street manager, and other community leaders for a roundtable discussion focused on how investments in health care and education strengthen workforce development, expand opportunity, and drive economic growth across Pennsylvania communities.

Supporting Our Communities, Every Day



UPMC Hillman Cancer Center at UPMC Washington Expands Access to Advanced Cancer Care with Addition of Second Linear Accelerator

The investment strengthens UPMC's ability to provide leading-edge cancer treatment close to home, reduce travel burden for patients, and expand access to specialized therapies in Washington County.



UPMC Jameson Brings Advanced Cardiac CT and Non-MRI Services to the Lawrence and Mercer Counties Region

The advanced imaging technology provides new capabilities to enhance heart disease diagnosis and treatment, while also reducing patient radiation and reduces the need for patients to travel outside the region for specialized care.

U.S. News & World Report Nationally Ranks UPMC Hospitals

UPMC hospitals continued to earn national recognition for clinical excellence:

- UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside was ranked in 12 adult specialties and recognized as one of the best Regional Hospitals for Community Access. It also ranked No. 1 nationally in psychiatry through UPMC Western Psychiatric Hospital.
- UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital and UPMC Mercy remained among the nation's best hospitals for obstetrics and gynecology and rehabilitation, respectively.
- UPMC Passavant advanced to No. 3 in the Pittsburgh metro region and No. 35 in Pennsylvania.

UPMC Mercy Women's Hospital Hosts First-Ever Beauty Clinic for Cancer Survivors

Through services such as hair and wig styling, makeup, massage, and nail care, the event supported patients' emotional well-being, fostered meaningful connections among participants, and reinforced UPMC's commitment to caring for the whole person throughout their cancer journey.

Supporting Our Communities, Every Day

eyeCREAtive Children's Museum Hosts First Teddy Bear Clinic with UPMC

UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, in partnership with UPMC Children's and UPMC Mercy, hosted its first Teddy Bear Clinic. The event gave children the opportunity to build confidence around medical visits through hands-on activities, including checking stuffed animals' vitals, using medical equipment, and simulated check-ups using their favorite stuffed animals.

UPMC Jameson School of Nursing at UPMC Hanel Launches New, Flexible Program Pathways for Military Medics, Paramedics, and Aspiring Nurses

Two new pathways are launching in fall 2026: an advanced placement option for military medics, paramedics, and corpsmen with prior healthcare training, and a 24-month weekend RN-to-bsnma program designed for students seeking a more flexible schedule.

ASHE Celebrates UPMC Northwest for Excelling in Energy Reduction Efforts

UPMC Northwest was recognized by the American Society for Health Care Engineering (ASHE) for its efforts to reduce energy use in its operations, showcasing a commitment to advancing sustainability goals.

Supporting Our Communities, Every Day

UPMC Heart and Vascular Institute in Central Pa. Earns Highest Rating from Society of Thoracic Surgeons

UPMC's is recognized for exceptional patient care and outcomes for coronary bypass, valve care, and complex cardiac procedures. The distinction places UPMC among the top 1% of programs in the United States, Canada, and Canada and reflects a decade-long commitment to clinical excellence.

UPMC Hamblenne Ranked No. 7 Hospital in Pennsylvania

U.S. News & World Report recently ranked UPMC Hamblenne, which includes UPMC West Shore and UPMC Community Osteopathic under one license, No. 7 in Pennsylvania. The ranking reflects UPMC's long-standing commitment to clinical excellence, and high-quality patient care.

Supporting Our Communities, Every Day

UPMC Williamsport Opens Expanded Cardiac Rehab Gym with Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

UPMC Williamsport recently unveiled a newly renovated and expanded cardiac rehabilitation gym. The new space is designed to help patients provide personalized, clinically supervised care for heart patients returning close to home. It is a safer, more modern space designed to meet growing demand.

UPMC Wellsboro Embraces Access to Advanced Mammography Technology

UPMC Wellsboro has reinforced its commitment to ensure state-of-the-art equipment is available in rural communities and ensures the practice of the imaging team at UPMC Wellsboro, helping staff continue to provide timely, high-quality care.

Four Regional UPMC Hospitals Earn American Heart Association Awards for Stroke Care

The honors awarded for UPMC Williamsport, UPMC Wellsboro, UPMC Mercy, and UPMC Cole reflect the dedication of physicians, nurses, emergency responders, and care teams in meeting nationally recognized stroke care standards and advancing recovery for patients across the region.

Supporting Our Communities, Every Day

UPMC Altoona Expands Access to Advanced Robotic Technology

The expansion of this platform into UPMC Altoona demonstrates UPMC's commitment to continued investment in advanced technology and providing world-class care throughout the communities it serves.

Rural Health and Community Well-Being

UPMC Bedford President Mike Cone highlights how subsidiaries and partnerships with local organizations, such as the Bedford Memorial Home, the hospital's significant impact on the community through patient care, employment, and economic investment.

Supporting Our Communities, Every Day

UPMC Orthopaedic Care Launches at UPMC Western Maryland with Addition of Dounes Ramnik, MD

Welcoming Dr. Ramnik to the region is a significant milestone for us and reinforces our commitment to delivering exceptional orthopaedic care where it's needed most," says Nicholas V. Mogan, MD, chief, Orthopaedic Surgery, UPMC.

UPMC Western Maryland Appoints Mary Ann Rizer, DO, as Vice President of Medical Affairs

This leadership appointment reinforces UPMC Western Maryland's commitment to delivering high-quality, patient-centered care while leveraging the clinical expertise of patients, physicians, and care teams across the region.

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