



# Citizens for Healthy Community Hospitals

## **Audrain Hospital and Clinics FAQs**

### **Is Audrain Hospital being sold to MU Health Care? Is the sale of Audrain Hospital to MU Health Care contingent upon the sale of the Jefferson City Hospital?**

Earlier this year, SSM Health requested proposals to purchase St. Mary's Hospital-Jefferson City and St. Mary's Hospital-Audrain and clinics. In August, MU Health Care signed a letter of intent to purchase both hospitals. The sale of both Audrain and Jefferson City Hospitals is contingent upon final negotiations and may require regulatory approvals and legislative action because multiple hospitals exist in the Jefferson City market. It is important to note that the outright purchase of Audrain Hospital would not require legislative approval and could proceed without delay following a period of due diligence.

### **Why is Audrain Hospital Being Sold Now?**

Increasingly, community hospitals are being sold, merged or consolidated to strengthen their financial position and secure future growth in providing the highest quality, affordable health care services to their patients. Joining MU Health Care is an opportunity for Audrain Hospital to become a part of the robust medical services, research, technologies and treatments that have made MU Health the premier health care provider in Central Missouri. The purchase of Audrain Hospital will ensure that our community hospital remains close to home while delivering exceptional primary and specialty care.

### **Will new ownership under MU Health affect patient care? What can we expect to see happen as a result of this transaction?**

MU Health Care has a strong commitment and connection to the people of Central Missouri and will continue to provide the highest quality, patient-centered care at Audrain Hospital and clinics. With the purchase of Audrain Hospital, MU Health Care will be able to expand access to affordable primary and specialty care in Mexico and the rural communities in Callaway, Montgomery and Ralls Counties where Audrain has established a network of clinics. This underscores MU Health Care's commitment to supporting rural communities that are facing shortages in primary care and family medicine. Under new ownership, there will be no disruption in the quality care patients and communities expect and deserve from Audrain Hospital.

#### **What will happen to the physicians and staff at Audrain Hospital?**

MU Health Care has assured Audrain Hospital that the interests and professional futures of the physicians and employees will be at the forefront of all discussions. Current physicians will continue to serve on an open medical staff and both physicians and employees will have increased access to a wide range of opportunities for jobs, growth and advancement within the MU Health Care organization. By deepening its investment in Mexico and Audrain County, MU Health Care will be able to provide specialty care close to home, creating new opportunities and increasing demand for physicians.

#### **Will this sale affect the cost of health care?**

It is important to note that as a public institution, MU Health Care is guided by all rules and regulations established by the State of Missouri. MU Health Care does not anticipate any significant changes in the cost of care or the current contracts with insurers as a result of the sale.

#### **What can I do to support Audrain Hospital and the sale to MU Health Care?**

It is important to be involved in the decision about the future of Audrain Hospital and its network of rural clinics. To protect the future of Audrain Hospital, there are several steps you can take to make your voice heard during these negotiations. Attend community meetings and stay informed over next several months, talk to your friends, call or write to your elected officials and sign the *Citizens for Healthy Community Hospitals* petition to keep Audrain Hospital right here at home.

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN OUR PETITION ONLINE](#)