

5/18/22

Greetings and blessings,

It is with mixed emotions that I am announcing my departure from Lubbock Christian University, effective June 17, 2022. It has been my great honor and privilege to serve as the physician and director of the LCU Medical Clinic for the past 17 years. If this email has reached you, and you did not ever see me as a patient, you may disregard this message. However, I am utilizing the assistance of our campus technology and database teams to make every effort to reach all students and employees from the past 2 years, so that if you were seen in the Medical Clinic, you could be made aware of this transition, for the purposes of requesting copies of labs, immunization records, or other medical records you may need to assist you in transitioning to the care of another physician or health care provider for your future medical care.

Since its inception in 2005, the goal of the LCU Medical Clinic has been to provide competent, compassionate, affordable health care to both students and employees during their time here as part of the LCU family. And as my time here draws to a close, my goal is to ensure that the transition is as smooth as possible. The LCU Medical Clinic will subsequently be known as the LCU Student Health Office. Our nurse (Darla Stewart, RN) will remain on staff for the coming academic year, and she will be available for basic medical assessments and also to help facilitate connections to physicians in the community, when needed. As for me, I have accepted an offer from Belmont University to serve as a physician member of the inaugural faculty at the new medical school they are establishing on campus in Nashville, Tennessee, where my wife and I will be moving this summer. We both seek your prayers during this incredible transition in our lives.

Please make every effort to call or come by the clinic as soon as possible for any medical needs you'd like to address with me, or any health record requests you may have. This notification serves as my official 30-day notice of departure, and you should begin making plans for a transition to a health care provider of your choosing. However, please know that we intend to assist you with this transition, and if you are an established patient and need a prescription refill, then please contact us within the next 30 days. Please also know that your medical records will be maintained securely and confidentially within the HIPAA-compliant electronic health record system at the Student Health Office beyond my departure, in accordance with federal privacy laws and Texas medical records regulations and timelines. These records will be released to your health care provider or whomever you designate, only with your written permission. Please see the website for an authorization form, or call or come by the clinic to discuss any questions.

I have greatly valued my time at LCU, and it will always hold a special place in my heart. Feel free to reply by email, as I will keep this email address active for the next several weeks, as long as is feasible to do so. Please do keep in mind that any health/medical or other confidential information you share via email is at your own discretion. If you need to reach out for a phone conversation, feel free to call the office at 806-720-7482 – if there is no answer, then feel free to leave a voicemail, again at your own discretion. \*\*\*

If a need arises for you to call or email beyond the end of June, please know that I will do my best to get back to you in a timely manner – but know that I will no longer be serving under official capacity at the clinic, and Darla should be your primary point of contact. She will be able to contact me regarding any phone calls or questions that arise, because again, it is very important to me that we make this transition as smooth as possible for everyone involved.

Best wishes for your future health, and blessings to you all.



Jeffrey D. Smith, M.D.

\*\*\*As always, please know that you should never rely on email or voicemail for timely communication if you have an urgent medical need – please instead go to an urgent care or emergency room facility.