

Frequently asked questions

What is happening?

Exciting changes are taking place at East Greenwich Spine & Sport (EGSS). On March 1, 2017, East Greenwich Spine & Sport, Inc. will join University Orthopedics, Inc. For the first several months, patients will continue to be seen at the current EGSS location before joining University Orthopedics in a new 24,000 square foot, state-of-the-art, multidisciplinary center located at 1598 South County Trail in East Greenwich. We believe this change will allow us to better offer many of the exemplary services that the community has come to appreciate with increased access and efficiency.

Why is this happening?

University Orthopedics represents the gold standard for quality in the region and will complement our dedication to broad spectrum, high quality care. Our goal for this change is to bring the excellent care that we have come to be known for to a state-of-the-art center as part of a team of musculoskeletal experts.

Joining University Orthopedics will allow us to offer the access that patients and referring providers deserve by adding more clinicians to help with patient care. The addition of two on-site procedure suites will significantly reduce the cost of our xray-guided injections as most of our procedures will be moved out of the hospital setting and into our new state-of-the-art center. Most importantly, joining University Orthopedics will allow us to offer the best patient experience through interdisciplinary team collaboration among physical therapists, musculoskeletal medicine specialists and surgeons. We think patients and providers will love the quality, access and cost savings that we will offer as part of the University Orthopedics interdisciplinary team.

Can you still be my doctor?

Yes. Drs. Bica, Pasquarello and Smith are happy they will still be working together as a team and will remain a short distance away in East Greenwich. We will begin seeing patients as part of University Orthopedics on March 1, 2017 and will move to 1598 South County Trail in East Greenwich later in the spring of 2017. You must sign [a release of medical information form](#) for your doctor to access your records. Please return completed forms to the EGSS office in person at 1351 South County Trail, Suite 100, by fax at 401-885-6071 or by email at info@egss.us.

Will there be any changes to the type of care you provide?

The changes in our practice will require us to modify some of our current services. Because we will not be doing injections in a hospital operating room, we will not be able to offer intravenous

sedation during fluoroscopic injection procedures. Fortunately, the majority of our patients tolerate their procedures well using local anesthesia or premedication with pills.

Additionally, as part of an orthopedics practice, we will no longer be providing chronic care management such as medication maintenance. Patients who have been receiving chronic medication management through East Greenwich Spine & Sport are encouraged to contact their primary care providers at their medical home for ongoing care. Patients who are receiving prescriptions for opioid medications and whose primary care providers will not provide chronic opioid maintenance may need to contact one of the following resources before our practice transitions to University Orthopedics on 3/1/2017:

Meadow's Edge pain management clinic	401 294 6170
Anchor Recovery Community Center	401 721 5100
Addiction Recovery Institute	401 737 4788
Discovery House	401 821 8866

Will you still take my insurance?

University Orthopedics physicians participate in most of the health plans in the area. We will provide you with care that adheres to your insurance guidelines, however, we must have your help. Our patients are encouraged to check with their insurance carrier to make sure that University Orthopedics is in their care network. University Orthopedics can also provide care for patients as an out-of-network provider. We will file the claims for you and assist you in obtaining maximum reimbursements, but ultimately, you are responsible for your bill.

University Orthopedics participates in the following major plans:

- Tufts
- Aetna
- Neighborhood Health
- Blue Cross Blue Shield
- Medicare
- Medcost
- UHC
- Cigna
- Medicaid
- Commercial
- Work Comp
- Railroad Medicare

Will my records go with you? What happens to my medical record from East Greenwich Spine & Sport?

In accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), patients must sign [a release of medical information form](#) if they want their medical record to move from East Greenwich Spine & Sport to University Orthopedics. You must sign this release form so Drs. Bica, Pasquarello and Smith will be able to access your medical record after they move to University Orthopedics. Please return completed forms to the EGSS office in person at 1351 South County Trail, Suite 100, by fax at 401-885-6071 or by email at info@egss.us.

I cannot / do not want to follow you to University Orthopedics; what should I do?

If you wish to continue within the Care New England system, please call 401-737-9950.