

**Media Statement**

Nothing is more important than ensuring the safety of our patients and providing support for our physicians, nurses and staff. As California's COVID-19 surge continues, the state has requested additional support for COVID-19 hotspot counties. Adventist Health Lodi Memorial and Dameron Hospital are welcoming clinical teams from the Department of Defense to provide additional capacity to support our team members caring for our COVID-19 patients. The Department of Defense Medical Teams comprise clinical professionals – doctors, nurses and respiratory therapists – who will offer additional resources during the surge. They will also offer reinforcements for our medical professionals who have been on the front lines serving patients throughout our COVID-19 response. We appreciate the collaboration and support from the state and Department of Defense. Together, we are all playing an important role to address COVID-19.

As we continue to treat COVID-19, we would like to remind our community and neighbors of the important role we all must play. Following CDC and state guidelines of wearing a mask while in public and practicing social distancing supports the life of fellow community members and the health of the physicians and nurses on the front lines.

We also want to remind our community that Adventist Health Lodi Memorial and Dameron Hospital are safe places to receive care. Community members are urged to continue to seek care when they need it, especially those who are feeling chest pain, experiencing stroke symptoms or having other serious concerns.

And finally, we want to express our continued gratitude for all Adventist Health and Dameron affiliated physicians, nurses, clinicians and professional staff who continue to go above and beyond to help our community face COVID-19 with compassion and professionalism. They are healthcare heroes in every sense of the word.

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