

What type of facility is the Shady Grove Adventist Emergency Center at Germantown?

The Shady Grove Adventist Emergency Center functions similar to the hospital's main Emergency Department, but does not have inpatient beds. The Emergency Center provides the same emergency medical care that patients can receive at a hospital emergency department. Advanced technology allows the Emergency Center to be closely linked with Shady Grove Adventist Hospital. For example, the hospital provides digital x-ray images, allowing doctors at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital to review images from patients at the Shady Grove Adventist Emergency Center. For patients who come to the Emergency Center, but require inpatient hospital care, state and county officials have worked closely with Shady Grove Adventist Hospital to establish transport protocols for the Emergency Center.

The Shady Grove Adventist Emergency Center, which significantly improves access to emergency medical care for area residents, was just the first part of what has become a network of comprehensive health-care services for Germantown and the upper part of Montgomery County:

- Shady Grove Adventist Radiation Oncology Center at Germantown
- MobileMed Upcounty Primary Care Clinic
- Maternity Partnership Prenatal Center
- Medical Office Building

Why is there a need for a freestanding emergency medical facility in Germantown?

The area that Shady Grove Adventist Hospital serves includes residents in central and northern Montgomery County. In 2005, before the Emergency Center opened, Shady Grove Adventist Hospital's Emergency Department treated nearly 90,000 emergency patients. The community served by Shady Grove Adventist Hospital in upper Montgomery County faces a unique combination of factors that impede access to emergency medical care: skyrocketing population growth, severe traffic congestion, and a large geographic service area among other issues. Since the Shady Grove Adventist Emergency Center opened in August of 2006, it has provided emergency medical care to an average of 36,000 patients a year. The freestanding facility has also reduced out-of-service ambulance times in upper Montgomery County by 40 percent, according to the county's Fire and Rescue Service.



How do Maryland laws support freestanding emergency medical facilities?

In 2006, the Maryland Senate and House of Delegates passed legislation that effectively enabled Shady Grove Adventist Hospital to establish a freestanding emergency medical facility in Germantown. Process and protocols regulate freestanding medical facilities, such as the Shady Grove Adventist Emergency Center, that are administratively linked to a hospital.

A new 2010 law directs the state to set reimbursement rates for freestanding emergency facilities in Maryland, including the Shady Grove Adventist Germantown Emergency Center, to help cover important staffing and equipment costs.

Where is the Shady Grove Adventist Emergency Center in Germantown located?

The 17,000-square-foot facility, with 21 emergency treatment beds, is located on a four-acre site next to a physician office building on Route 118, just west of I-270. The four-acre site is located across from the Germantown Town Center.

Who staffs the Emergency Center?

The Shady Grove Adventist Emergency Center in Germantown is staffed by a team of board certified emergency physicians as well as about 30 specially trained nurses and staff.

When did the emergency facility open to patients?

The Shady Grove Adventist Emergency Center opened August 7, 2006.

How will reimbursements issues be handled?

The emergency medical facility accepts all patients for care, regardless of ability to pay. Officials from Shady Grove Adventist Hospital have negotiated contracts with private and public insurers.