

**From:** [LCOM Office of the Dean](#)  
**To:** [Gilwee, Vicki M](#)  
**Subject:** On Behalf of Deans Page and Zehle - Update to West Palm Beach Affiliation  
**Date:** Friday, September 24, 2021 9:55:34 AM  
**Attachments:** [StMarys-LarnerCommunication.pdf](#)

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The University of Vermont  
LARNER COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

OFFICE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION

September 24, 2021

Dear Larner Community:

We are writing to provide an update on our clinical education affiliation with St. Mary's Hospital in West Palm Beach Florida.

Over the last decade, we have been fortunate to place students at St. Mary's Medical Center in West Palm Beach for the pediatrics, surgery and the obstetrics and gynecology clerkships. This site complemented our other clinical sites and provided diversity in patient care experiences that was valued by our students. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and limitations in travel, as well as surges in COVID-19 cases specifically in Florida, education leaders at St. Mary's and in Burlington agreed to suspend clinical rotations during the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 academic years.

Recently, St. Mary's Medical Center became part of the Palm Beach Group Network which encompasses the Del Ray Medical Center and the Southern Health Network, which is affiliated with Florida Atlantic University (FAU). Therefore, St. Mary's Medical Center is no longer able to partner with the Larner College of Medicine. We are grateful to Dr. Steven Schultz, our clinical site director at St. Mary's Medical Center, and Paula Manger, the CME/GME Program Manager, for welcoming our students and supporting their clinical medical education in the West Palm Beach community.

As we continue to navigate the changing clinical landscape, we are fortunate to have many other clinical education opportunities within our UVM Health Network, at our Connecticut campus and in surrounding Vermont, New York, Maine and Connecticut communities.

As always, thank you for your engagement in our mission-critical medical education program.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Page, M.D.  
Dean

Christa H. Zehle, M.D.  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education