



April 1, 2026

Camila Guerra, District Manager
CDPH Bakersfield District Office
4540 California Avenue, Suite 200
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Dear Camila,

This letter serves to inform you of an important strategic decision concerning Bakersfield Memorial Hospital's long-term sustainability and future impact within our community. Effective June 30, 2026, we will not be renewing our hospital services agreement with the Grossman Burn Center, which will result in the closure of 7 acute burn beds and the outpatient programs at our facility.

The Burn Center has played an important role in providing specialized burn care to the region. However, after an extended and deliberate evaluation process, persistently low patient volumes were found to significantly limit the efficient use of our highly specialized staff and resources. Patient safety, continuity of care, and responsible stewardship of healthcare resources remained central considerations throughout this review.

We want to assure CDPH that all established policies and procedures related to the maintenance, retention, and access of medical records will be strictly followed throughout and after this closure process. Our primary electronic medical record (EMR) system is Cerner, where all patient health information is meticulously maintained. Patient medical records, both electronic and scanned paper documents within Cerner, will remain accessible to authorized providers within our organization and to patients upon request, in accordance with all HIPAA regulations and our internal privacy policies.

As part of this evaluation, we assessed regional capacity to ensure continued access to specialized burn services. Bakersfield Memorial Hospital will continue to provide immediate burn stabilization and emergency care through its emergency department. Patients requiring advanced burn treatment will be transferred through established pathways to designated regional burn centers, ensuring access to specialized care for patients including Medicare and Medicaid patients:

Designated Regional Burn Centers for Care:

UCLA Health Burn Center
7300A Medical Center Dr., West Hills, CA 91307
(818) 676-4511
Approximate Distance From Bakersfield: ~90-100 miles



Community Regional Medical Center-Leon S. Peters Burn Center
2823 Fresno St., Fresno, CA 93721
(559) 459-4220
Approximate Distance From Bakersfield: ~100-110 miles

UCI Health Regional Burn Center
101 The City Drive South, Orange, CA 92868
(888) 622-2876
Approximate Distance From Bakersfield: ~140-150 miles

We are committed to supporting our colleagues through this transition and will assist all interested staff in identifying and applying for other positions within the Bakersfield Memorial Hospital family. We have personally notified impacted employees and their union representatives.

This decision reflects our commitment to responsibly aligning resources with the most critical and sustainable healthcare needs, ensuring that Bakersfield Memorial Hospital remains a strong and reliable provider of care well into the future.

Sincerely,

Terri Church
Chief Operating Officer
Bakersfield Memorial Hospital
661-541-0005