

Atrium Health Floyd EMS Now Providing Life-Saving Blood Transfusions in the Field *New Pre-Hospital Service Can Improve Patient Outcomes*

ROME, Ga., Dec. 17, 2025 – Atrium Health Floyd Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is advancing care for Floyd County residents with the ability to deploy life-saving blood products on site. The introduction of blood and plasma transfusions before patients arrive at the hospital can dramatically improve patient outcomes. The service plans to extend this capability to Chattooga County in early 2026.

“When seconds count, early blood transfusion can mean the difference between life and death,” said Dr. Mac McKemie, Atrium Health Floyd trauma director and surgeon. “By bringing this capability into the field, Atrium Health Floyd EMS is setting a new standard for trauma care in our region. This program ensures patients receive critical interventions as quickly as possible, giving them the best chance for survival.”

This initiative reflects Atrium Health Floyd’s commitment to excellence in emergency and rural health and its dedication to leveraging hospital-based resources for the benefit of the communities we serve. The in-field transfusion program aligns with national best practices for trauma care and represents a significant step forward in rural and regional EMS capabilities.

“This program is a game-changer for pre-hospital care,” said Greg Goedert, Atrium Health Floyd EMS education manager. “By carrying blood products on our ambulances, we can begin life-saving interventions immediately, rather than waiting until the patient arrives at the hospital.”

Because Atrium Health Floyd EMS is hospital based, unused blood products carried by ambulance teams can be returned to stock. This significantly reduces waste of this vital, limited resource and ensures that every unit of blood serves its intended purpose — saving lives.

Atrium Health Floyd is the region’s only Level II Trauma Center verified by the American College of Surgeons. It provides the highest standard of care for critically injured patients in northwest Georgia and northeast Alabama. Atrium Health Floyd EMS is the state’s only four-time recipient of Georgia EMS of the Year Award. This new EMS initiative strengthens that commitment by extending advanced trauma care beyond hospital walls.

About Atrium Health Floyd

The [Atrium Health Floyd](#) family of health care services is a leading medical provider and economic force in northwest Georgia and northeast Alabama. Atrium Health Floyd is part of Charlotte, North Carolina-based [Advocate Health](#), the third-largest nonprofit health system in the United States, created from the combination of [Atrium Health](#) and Advocate Aurora Health. Atrium Health Floyd strategically combined with Harbin Clinic in 2024 and employs more than 5,200 teammates who provide care in over 40 medical specialties at four facilities: Atrium Health Floyd Medical Center – a 361-bed full-service, acute care hospital and regional referral center in Rome, Georgia; Atrium Health Floyd Polk Medical Center in Cedartown, Georgia; and Atrium Health Floyd Cherokee Medical Center in Centre, Alabama; and Atrium Health Floyd Medical Center Behavioral Health, also in Rome. Together, Atrium Health Floyd and Harbin Clinic provide primary care, specialty care and urgent care throughout northwest Georgia and northeast Alabama. Atrium Health Floyd also operates a stand-alone emergency department in Chattooga County, the first such facility to be built from the ground-up in

Georgia.

About Advocate Health

[Advocate Health](#) is the third-largest nonprofit, integrated health system in the United States, created from the combination of Advocate Aurora Health and Atrium Health. Providing care under the names [Advocate Health Care](#) in Illinois; [Atrium Health](#) in the Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama; and [Aurora Health Care](#) in Wisconsin, Advocate Health is a national leader in clinical innovation, health outcomes, consumer experience and value-based care. Headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina, Advocate Health services nearly 6 million patients and is engaged in hundreds of clinical trials and research studies, with [Wake Forest University School of Medicine](#) serving as the academic core of the enterprise. Advocate Health is nationally recognized for its expertise in heart and vascular, neurosciences, oncology, pediatrics and rehabilitation, as well as organ transplants, burn treatments and specialized musculoskeletal programs. Advocate Health employs more than 160,000 teammates across 69 hospitals and over 1,000 care locations and offers one of the nation's largest graduate medical education programs with over 2,000 residents and fellows across more than 200 programs. Committed to redefining care for all, Advocate Health provides more than \$6 billion in annual community benefits.

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