



## UK HealthCare, Norton Healthcare collaborating to improve health care, access for Kentuckians

UK HealthCare and Norton Healthcare officials announced in November that they have signed a Memorandum of Agreement and plan to join forces to improve health care for all Kentuckians.

In a joint statement, UK Executive Vice President for Health Affairs Dr. Michael Karpf and Norton Healthcare President and CEO Stephen A. Williams said:

“Our goal is to develop a pre-eminent statewide system of care that will expand the services available to all Kentuckians in their local hospitals. We are also focusing on developing stronger clinical partnerships throughout the Commonwealth. By working together our physicians and other health care professionals will provide a wider range of higher quality services more efficiently while also assuring immediate access to the best subspecialists in Kentucky.”

### Action focused on improving health

The decision to formalize ongoing alliances in clinical programs, workforce, education and research came after leadership from both organizations met to assess how best to serve patients within a large geographic area in a rapidly changing environment. Karpf and Williams cited the fact that Kentucky has very poor health rankings in both its adult and pediatric populations, with particular challenges and opportunities in the areas of cancer, heart disease, stroke/neuroscience and diabetes.

Both UK HealthCare and Norton Healthcare, Karpf and Williams noted, share a common vision and commitment to provide leadership to address these daunting challenges.

### Building statewide system of care

During its recent strategic planning process, UK HealthCare, the clinical enterprise of the University of Kentucky, focused on continuing the academic medical center's evolution into a destination provider of advanced subspecialty care in Kentucky and surrounding states. Consequently, UK HealthCare's leadership team believes Norton Healthcare, Kentucky's largest comprehensive health care system and an existing teaching site for UK's pharmacy and nursing programs, is an excellent choice to collaborate on a rational statewide system of care to

improve access and quality of medical services. The affiliation is expected to produce significant benefits in at least four areas:

- **Clinical services:** Strengthening programs for advanced patient care in cancer, neuroscience, cardiology and organ transplants.
- **Teaching programs:** Expanding teaching programs, which will increase the number of medical professionals and address

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*– Dr. Michael Karpf, UK Executive Vice President for Health Affairs, and Stephen A. Williams, Norton Healthcare President and CEO*

the severe shortage facing the state, particularly in key practice areas such as obstetrics/gynecology, neuroscience, primary care and family practice.

- **Children's health:** Creating new opportunities to expand a full range of services, from primary care pediatrics to subspecialty care, thereby ensuring that children in the Commonwealth do not have to leave the state to access care. Additionally, as the stewards of Norton Healthcare's Kosair Children's Hospital and Kentucky Children's Hospital, the

*(continued next page)*

## About Norton Healthcare

Norton Healthcare is the Louisville area's leading hospital and health care system and third largest private employer, providing care at more than 100 locations throughout Greater Louisville and Southern Indiana. The not-for-profit system includes five Louisville hospitals; 12 Norton Immediate Care Centers; 10,900 employees; more than 400 employed medical providers; and nearly 2,300 total physicians on its medical staff.

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**UK HealthCare**

## State-of-the-art Emergency Department serves thousands in first six months

The new emergency department, which is twice as large as the previous facility (or roughly equivalent in size to a football field), opened to patients this past summer.

“There is not a more sophisticated facility in the world than our new emergency department at UK,” said Dr. Michael Karpf, UK’s executive vice president for health affairs. “In the event of a large-scale emergency, the UK Chandler Emergency Department and its highly trained professionals would prove invaluable for our entire community and this region.”



The facility includes three centers: the Makenna David Pediatric Emergency Center, with a separate entrance, its own registration and waiting areas, and special treatment facilities for young patients; the UK Level I Trauma Center; and an Adult Emergency Center that includes Express Care, an area designed for patients with less serious needs including a “chair-centric” room where patients are quickly evaluated and treated while they rest in comfortable recliners. The emergency department includes the latest technological advances, including electronic documentation of high-risk cases, computerized order entry, Wi-Fi coverage in waiting areas, and wireless and mobile X-ray and endoscopy carts to speed delivery of care to patients. The emergency department is part of the first phase of UK HealthCare’s \$760 million expansion project. In 2011, the first two floors of a new 12-story patient care facility also will be completed.

“Everyone hopes they never need high-level trauma care and that a mass casualty situation will never occur in Lexington, but we are reassured in knowing that if the unexpected happens, our community is equipped and ready to handle any emergency situation because of the UK Chandler Emergency Department,” said Lexington Mayor Jim Newberry. “Furthermore, this new facility will only enhance Lexington’s growing reputation as a national center for quality health care.”

For more information about the UK Chandler Emergency Department, please go to [www.ukhealthcare.uky.edu/new/ED/index.asp](http://www.ukhealthcare.uky.edu/new/ED/index.asp).

## Norton Healthcare (continued from front)

partners are committed to addressing major children’s health issues such as obesity and juvenile diabetes.

- **Federal health care reform:** Working collaboratively to improve the overall value and quality of care provided while encouraging transparency in the wake of federal health reforms. UK will learn from Norton Healthcare’s nationally recognized expertise in “accountable care,” enabling both entities to respond efficiently and proactively to health care reform initiatives. Norton Healthcare was recently selected by the Brookings/Dartmouth University initiative as one of the nation’s first four pilot sites (and the only one in Kentucky) to develop an Accountable Care Organization. “Our organizations share a mission to improve access and the quality of care for Kentuckians close to their

homes, while ensuring complex patients receive the care they need without having to leave the state,” Dr. Karpf said. “We are confident collaboration will significantly enhance teaching and research opportunities, thus attracting new research dollars and nationally recognized physicians.”

“Health care providers across the country have recognized that they must embrace collaborations that provide high quality care while emphasizing efficiency and limiting unnecessary, costly duplication of services,” Williams said. “Regional cooperation and pooling of resources will be essential features of what is sure to be a national trend in the years to come and Norton Healthcare’s and UK’s decision puts Kentucky on the leading edge of that new reality.”

## New UK Chandler Hospital on target for 2011 opening

The 12-story red brick exterior of the new UK Albert B. Chandler Hospital now stands tall as part of the skyline of the university’s medical campus. The shell of the structure – now nearly completed – redefines the landscape of UK’s south campus and is poised to redefine the future of health care in Kentucky.

The next milestone in the phased plan is the opening of the first two floors of the hospital in spring 2011. At that time, a total of 128 beds, including 48 intensive care beds and 80 acute care beds, will be utilized in the new hospital. Also opening will be the atrium lobby, auditorium, chapel, waiting rooms, gift shop and coffee shop. The new parking garage at Transcript and Limestone, which opened in November 2007, and the new state-of-the-art Chandler Emergency Department, which opened in July 2010, are also counted as part of the building’s first phase.

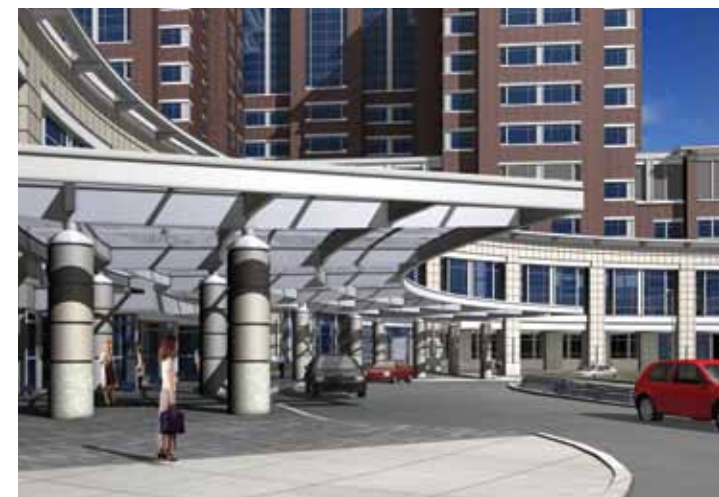
Over all, the new 1.2 million-square-foot facility is designed to support patient care for the next 100 years and, once fully fit out, will replace the original Chandler Hospital.

The new hospital, to be fully fit out and occupied in six to 10 years, will have 512 large, private patient rooms, wireless Internet and cell phone access throughout the building, and more than 25 state-of-the-art operating rooms. It will also include unique features such as a 305-seat auditorium, which will be used as an educational

center and will also host the Lucille Caudill Little Performing Arts in Healthcare Program. The program will feature performances by UK music, dance and theatre students, along with renowned performers.



*Above right and below left: The sweeping circular drive wraps around a park-like plaza that features stone walls, pathways, multiple tree species and grasses representative of the Bluegrass. Left: Spacious, attractive waiting areas inside the new pavilion are designed for the comfort of family and visitors. Below right: Just inside from the circular drive, the two-story atrium was designed to provide a welcoming experience. It features the warm colors of natural stone and wood, artwork, multiple seating areas, two skylights, extensive glass with views to the outside, and a highly visible information desk.*



“We at UK HealthCare are committed to building an outstanding hospital that will provide the most advanced subspecialty care found anywhere in the region,” said Dr. Michael Karpf, executive vice president for health affairs at UK. “More importantly, our physicians and our facilities will make it possible for Kentuckians to receive exemplary advanced care close to home, without the need to leave the state.”

A community open house is planned as part of the building’s grand opening celebration this May. Visit [ukhealthcare.uky.edu/new](http://ukhealthcare.uky.edu/new) for updates as they develop.