

SPECIAL EDITION
November 10, 1993

Board Approves Site Improvement Plan

The Board of Trustees of Lehigh Valley Hospital reaffirmed at its monthly meeting in November that within one year all inpatient medical/surgical services at 17th & Chew will be relocated to Cedar Crest & I-78. The Board's action last week reaffirmed a merger and consolidation process that began in 1987.

A number of improvements are slated within the next year which will precede the implementation of the Master Facility Plan scheduled to be unveiled in May 1994. The goal of the plan is to house all acute inpatient beds at Cedar Crest & I-78 and redefine how ambulatory care services are delivered at both sites.

This special edition of *CheckUp* provides you with the details of the site improvements that will precede the rollout of the master plan and a proposed schedule for the moves to take place.

These moves include the consolidation of:

- Medical/surgical inpatient beds (CC & I-78)
- Pediatric inpatient beds (CC & I-78)

Ambulatory surgery services will be relocated to 17th & Chew pending the completion of the Master Facility Plan.

The hospital will be considering the development of a sub-acute Skilled Nursing Facility within the 17th & Chew site to provide a much needed,

lower cost alternative to certain types of inpatient care.

Obstetrical facilities at 17th & Chew will be upgraded.

The gastrointestinal laboratory will be enlarged, renovated and consolidated at Cedar Crest & I-78.

Pre-admission testing areas at Cedar Crest & I-78 will be redesigned and expanded. The emergency department at Cedar Crest & I-78 will be expanded to house an urgent care program. The emergency room and Express Care service at 17th & Chew will remain open.

In 1997, the inpatient OB/GYN, NICU and Mental Health services at 17th & Chew will also be relocated to Cedar Crest & I-78.

The site and facilities initiative is one of five major efforts within the hospital's FUTURES program. It is designed to improve patient access to services, lower costs and improve overall patient care services.

These are the details of the improvements that will precede the implementation of the Master Facility Plan. Future editions of *CheckUp* will provide you with additional information as our planning process moves ahead. Supervisors and administrators were informed on Nov. 9 and are also available to answer questions and/or clarify the information we have to date. ■

Site and Facilities Planning Schedule

■ January 1992

- Board of Trustees approves Clinical Plan to consolidate facilities and identify major new initiatives

■ September 1992

- Construction of Cancer Center begins

■ May 1993

- Center for Women's Medicine opens
- Master facilities analysis begins

■ July 1993

- Outpatient Pediatrics opens

■ November 1993

- Board approval of site improvements to precede the roll-out of the master plan

■ November 1993

- Cancer Center opens (includes many cancer-related activities formerly in many different locations)

■ January 1994–October 1994

- Consolidation of:
 - Inpatient Medical/Surgical units (CC)
 - Inpatient Pediatrics (CC)
 - General Internal Medicine Services (CC)
- Renovations or relocation of:
 - Pre-admission testing areas (CC)
 - Gastrointestinal procedures lab (CC)
 - Obstetrical suites (17)
 - Emergency Department urgent care program (CC)

- Interim relocation of Ambulatory Surgery (17)

■ Spring 1994

- Present Master Facility Plan/Phase I

■ Summer 1994 - 1997

- Approve and implement Master Facility Plan/Phase I

■ January 1995

- Gastrointestinal Lab relocation