**UAMS News Bureau**

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# UAMS to Improve Access to Immediate Care with Combined ER and Urgent Care Model

LITTLE ROCK — The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), in partnership with Dallas-based Intuitive Health, is bringing a network of freestanding facilities to Arkansas that combine emergency departments and urgent care clinics under one roof.

"Expanding access to high-quality care is central to UAMS's mission to improve the health of all Arkansans," said UAMS Chancellor C. Lowry Barnes, M.D. "This new model will allow patients to walk in and be seen quickly for needs ranging from colds, sprains, and minor cuts to chest pain, broken bones, and other emergencies, without having to figure out where to go on their own."

The state-of-the-art facilities will be open 24/7, with on-site laboratory services and imaging capabilities such as CT, X-ray, and ultrasound, bringing the speed and convenience of urgent care together with the advanced capabilities of an emergency room.

"We are excited to work with UAMS Health to make immediate care more accessible and patient-centered," said Thom Herrmann, CEO of Intuitive Health. "These facilities will ensure Arkansans can access the right level of treatment without confusion and pay only for the care they actually need."

UAMS Health is working with The Boldt Company to develop the facilities, and local permits have been filed for the first location in Little Rock. The development is expected to take between a year to 18 months to complete. UAMS is also considering locations for other facilities, which will be announced at a later date.

UAMS is the state's only health sciences university, with colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Health Professions and Public Health; a graduate school; hospitals in Little Rock and Bryant; an orthopaedic hospital; a main campus in Little Rock; a Northwest Arkansas regional campus in Fayetteville; a statewide network of regional campuses; and seven institutes: the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute, Harvey & Bernice Jones Eye Institute, Psychiatric Research

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Institute, Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging, Translational Research Institute, and the Institute for Community Health Innovation. UAMS includes UAMS Health, a statewide health system that encompasses all of UAMS' clinical enterprise, including affiliated hospitals in Pine Bluff, Helena-West Helena, Mena, and Warren. UAMS is the only adult Level 1 trauma center in the state. UAMS has 3,813 students and 1,030 medical residents and fellows, and two dental residents. It is the state's largest public employer with about 12,000 employees, including 1,200 physicians who provide care to patients at UAMS, its regional campuses, Arkansas Children's, the VA Medical Center and Baptist Health. Visit www.uams.edu or www.uamshealth.com. Find us on Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), YouTube or Instagram.

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