

Frequently Asked Questions

New Hospital Opening



Where is the entrance for the new ER...I heard it moved?

It did, to the other side of the building – now with dedicated parking and more. While you can always follow the ‘EMERGENCY’ signs when arriving on our Farmington campus, the new Emergency Department can be found on the west side of our building....the opposite side from the past and current main doors.

Where do I park when I come to ‘the new hospital’?

Patient and visitor parking remains largely unchanged (except there is more now that a lot of the construction vehicles are gone). Follow signs once entering campus to the top of the hill, where you will find surface, garage and valet parking options.

Anything different if I am coming to see my doctor for an appointment?

Not right now. As you might know, many moved to the new Outpatient Pavilion last year, and that is a different building. For those clinics in our main building, note the ‘main’ entrance will undergo renovation beginning in July, but you will still have access to your destinations in that building.

Can I get from ‘the old hospital’ to the new?

Yes, but it’s going to take a while until it is easy and perfect. The connection between the buildings, especially for things like getting to the cafeteria, go through areas of the ‘old’ hospital – so a lot of that work will not be completed until we move from one clinical area to the other. In any interim period, we will do our best to have signs to assist, and you can always ask a member of our team.

When, exactly, are you opening?

More complex question than it seems. Work to be ready is underway, and we will start moving patients early in the morning April 30th. That will take most of the day, so the ‘hospital’ will open slowly that day, making May 1 the day most will see us as ‘open’ in the new building.

Will the ER close to move?

No, we will close the old and open the new simultaneously so patients can come here any time they believe they need care and not worry about that status.

Does opening mean no more construction on the Health Campus?

Far from it, though it will be 'smaller'. A new hospital tower is an huge project, and it's completion will mean a small deployment of tools, trucks and people, but we have more than another years' worth of work to finish including our Academic Entrance (opening in May/June), renovation in the old hospital and lab buildings and a project, starting in July, to modernize the current main lobby.

I have heard the term 'University Tower'...what's that mean?

First, know it is all UConn John Dempsey Hospital. But, with the opening, we become a two tower facility. The new one is referred to internally as the 'University' Tower, and it is the primary patient care facility, includes the new entry, ER and most of what you will use. The former hospital still houses many patient care functions, including Labor and Delivery, the NICU and more – and internally it is referred to as the 'Connecticut' Tower. Both make up the hospital, but internally you may see these names to help get you to the right location for care or to visit.