

Yorktown rehabilitation hospital will open to patients Tuesday



Construction on Riverside's new York County rehabilitation hospital was completed last month. Patients will be moved over to the new facility on Aug. 20, Riverside spokesman Peter Glagola said. (Rodrigo Arriaza/Staff)

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Riverside's new York County rehabilitation hospital is expected to open to patients Tuesday after construction was completed last month.

The 52,000-square-foot Riverside Rehabilitation Hospital is at 250 Josephs Drive in Yorktown off Route 17, and replaces Riverside's aging rehabilitation hospital in Newport News, which is more than 100 years old. Riverside is discussing terms with another healthcare organization interested in purchasing the Newport News facility, spokesman Peter Glagola said.

The recently completed Yorktown hospital will offer 50 private patient rooms, a 3,600-square-foot therapy gym, an outdoor walking path and an Activities of Daily Living suite, which helps patients practice using regular household equipment including a full kitchen, bed and laundry room, to prepare them to return home.

The hospital is the only freestanding rehabilitation hospital in Hampton Roads, according to a Riverside news release.

Glagola said staff at the new hospital has been busy preparing the building to receive patients on Tuesday. The patient move is expected to last six hours, with one patient being transported every 15 minutes, he said in an email.

“This location will make inpatient rehabilitation services even more accessible to people throughout the entire community, up into the Middle Peninsula and maybe even parts of the Northern Neck that have not typically been able to get easy access to those services,” Riverside Health System President and CEO Bill Downey said in the release.

Construction on the Yorktown hospital started in April 2018 and was the result of a partnership between Riverside Health and Select Medical, a healthcare company specializing in long-term acute and rehabilitative care. The project cost \$25 million and will employ 200 people.

In an earlier interview, Daniel Ballin, CEO of Riverside Rehabilitation Hospital, said it will specialize in extensive rehabilitative care for patients with brain injury, stroke, spinal cord injury, amputation, neurological diseases and cardiac respiratory conditions.

“Our clinical team combines evidence-based treatments, state-of-the-art equipment and compassion to help patients rebuild strength, mobility and independence to return to a quality life,” he said in the release. “We are honored to provide this level of world-class care to Yorktown and surrounding communities.”