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New hospital to ease wait times
By Lea Terry

At McBride Clinic in Oklahoma City, an increase in business had one drawback - too many patients and not enough space.

The clinic hopes its new hospital, opening in September, will ease some of the load and decrease wait times for patients.

"We had patients who were waiting longer than we would like to get in for surgeries," said Amanda Sewell of McBride's marketing department. "We just don't have the room here."

The grand opening for McBride Clinic Orthopedic Hospital, 9600 N. Broadway Extension, is scheduled for Sept. 12. The hospital is an extension of McBride's downtown Oklahoma City office, which will still be used for seeing patients. The clinic has been based downtown since its opening in 1919 and has expanded or relocated several times as the practice grew.

McBride previously used Bone and Joint Hospital, established by the clinic in 1926, for surgeries, but needed more space than the 50-bed facility provided.

McBride also needed to make room for its expanding staff. From its beginnings as a single office, McBride has grown to include 15 orthopedic surgeons, five rheumatologists, an occupational health doctor, two sports medicine family practice doctors and a podiatrist. "We do not have an overload here, and we need more space, so they're really excited to get started out there," Sewell said. "It's going to be beneficial for the patients because they won't have to wait as long to get in for surgery."

The clinic also has offices across the state, including in Edmond and Norman. All of these offices, including Bone and Joint Hospital, will remain open.

The new hospital, which cost \$30 million, was designed and built by the Benham Group and financed by MidFirst bank. The 100,000-square-foot building includes 40 acute care beds, 40 rehab beds and six operating rooms. The hospital sits on 15 acres at Broadway and Britton Road.

McBride doctors helped design the new building, which includes a post-anesthesia care unit, an ambulatory care center, a dining and dietary facility, laboratory and pharmacy services and a gift shop.

"The doctors oversaw almost all of the details that went into the hospital," Sewell said. "They were very involved in the operating rooms and making sure that they got the appropriate equipment in there. They oversaw even as far down as sitting in the chairs in the patient rooms to make sure they were comfortable."

This involvement insures the hospital is focused on patient need above all else, Sewell said.

"I think that benefits patients, because they have patient care in mind, and that's the biggest reason for building the hospital," she said. "It's not a money thing. They want to serve their patients."

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