




SPECIAL SECTION

2016

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VALLEY HOSPITAL

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Valley Hospital Medical Center, located in the heart of Las Vegas, has a long history of caring for residents and visitors.

Founded in 1972, Valley Hospital remains at the forefront of care with a comprehensive range of services that include:

- 24/7 emergency care with ER Wait Times and ER Reserve online
- Advanced cardiovascular, neurological and surgical programs
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- Accredited Chest Pain Center
- Wound healing and hyperbaric oxygen therapy
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At Valley Hospital, our mission is to provide high-quality care following evidence-based practices and service excellence standards that ensure our patients and their families are at the center of everything we do.

Check ER Wait Times and learn more about Valley Hospital at valleyhospital.net

For a FREE physician referral, call Direct Doctors Plus®
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Physicians are independent practitioners who are not employees or agents of Valley Hospital Medical Center. The hospital shall not be liable for actions or treatments provided by physicians. ER Wait Time is an average provided for informational purposes only. ER Reserve should be used only if you decide your care can wait until the time you select. Do not wait if your symptoms or conditions worsen or if you need immediate care since delays may complicate your condition. If you are unsure of your condition or if your condition worsens, then please go to the nearest emergency room or call 9-1-1. Some insurance plans may not cover an ER visit if it is deemed urgent care or may apply a different copay. Please check your covered benefits with your insurance provider for details.

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A message from Mayor Carolyn G. Goodman

Three years ago, one of my sons suffered a very serious head injury. He was cared for by our wonderful first responders and medical professionals in the Emergency Trauma Unit at the University Medical Center. I know that without the world-class medical care that he received within our Las Vegas Medical District he would not be with us today.

My son is just one of many people who are treated every day in the Las Vegas Medical District. The city of Las Vegas works with partners in the district to ensure that we continue to build momentum to become a top medical destination.

This year exciting progress has taken place in the LVMD. With the approval of the master plan for the area, we now see the pieces fitting together creating a home for the UNLV School of Medicine and simultaneously bringing in new businesses and development into the area.



Mayor Carolyn Goodman

Along with putting the LVMD together, we remain focused on attracting and retaining the finest physicians to be a part of our community. I'm pleased that the conversations on a needed increase in medical reimbursement rates continue, but now is the time for action. If we do not gain these rate increases, we risk losing our top doctors to other states offering higher rates and will fail to attract qualified physicians to our community.

Having launched the LVMD website recently, www.lasvegasmedicaldistrict.com, I invite you to visit the site and discover everything the medical community offers.

We remain committed to



WWW.LASVEGASMEDICALDISTRICT.COM

supporting, continuing and building upon the foundation of excellent work already occurring. Nothing but being on the highest

professional par with world-renowned medical care in other major cities will do for Las Vegas.

THANK YOU NURSES
FOR YOUR DEDICATION TO THE COMMUNITY

IN HONOR OF NURSES WEEK,
SDMI WANTS TO RECOGNIZE OUR
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City Council approves Medical District plan

Well-established in the community as a place for proven care, progressive innovation and overall healing, the Las Vegas Medical District is making plans for a facelift, for expansions and for new development. For the past two years, the city of Las Vegas has led a community effort to create a master plan for the Medical District, which is centrally located in downtown Las Vegas. In December, the Las Vegas City Council approved the master plan for the area, marking the beginning of a new chapter for the medical district.

"The master plan is just the beginning," said Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian. "We are going to change the way medical services are provided for our citizens and those in the greater southern Nevada area, and become a city that is known worldwide for world-class medicine."

According to Scott Adams, deputy city manager for the city of Las Vegas, this master plan was a group effort with advice and input from key stakeholders within the area.

"As a group, we have created an advisory council to oversee the Las Vegas Medical District, discussed at length the state of health care, sought input from citizens, facilitated conversations about new business and researched models like the Texas Medical Center in Houston," Adams said. "We will continue to work to-



This rendering shows the of long-range future opportunities for the Las Vegas Medical District.

gether to put the Las Vegas Medical District on the map."

The master plan was developed by the Arizona arm of SmithGroupJJR, LLC, an architecture, planning and urban design firm. Some of the planning recommendations were developed from the Southern Nevada Strong regional plan.

The Smith Group also worked with a planning committee of key Medical District stakeholders and residents to come up with the best uses for the area and to ensure that all opportunities were identified. They also con-

ducted national comparisons and economic impact studies.

KEY FINDINGS FROM THE MASTER PLAN REPORT:

■ The importance of the UNLV School of Medicine: Every benchmarked district across the country contains at least one full, four-year medical school. The ability of the schools to attract and create physicians, generate research dollars and technological advances, and to expand health care options are critical to the growth and success of any

medical district.

■ The importance of Collaborative Development Opportunities, which include a hotel, a medical library, food service, conference space, a fitness center, housing (for students, faculty and the community), parking management and concierge service.

■ The updated and expanded Medical District would have a phenomenal impact on the community. Economic Development data provided by a Tripp Umbach report found that the combined regional impact of the Las Vegas Medical District and UNLV School of Medicine could be \$3.6 billion by 2030. Total projected employment could be 24,182 jobs by 2030.

■ Government revenue resulting from the Las Vegas Medical District and UNLV School of Medicine could reach \$181 million by 2030.

■ Medical districts best able to compete on a national or international scale are those with a clearly defined identity. The ability to offer a level or type of care not commonly available (such as centers of excellence) is what sets a district apart.

■ Centers of excellence for the Medical District might include trauma, burn unit, transplant, pediatrics, advanced imaging, neurology, movement disorders, diseases and wellness related to aging and robotic surgery.

Neurological technology at Valley Hospital saves life

For Karen McKay of Pahrump, early June 2014 was a perfect time to plant some flowers with her neighbor. However, the day quickly turned into a medical emergency for the 68-year-old.

She pointed to her own car and asked, "Whose car is that?" Concerned, the neighbor asked her some more questions, and McKay became belligerent, saying she had no idea what her friend was talking about. The neighbor quickly dialed 911 and

an ambulance raced McKay away to the local hospital in Pahrump, where she learned she had a mass in her brain.

"I was so worried about my insurance," McKay said, "and when I learned I had to go to a hospital in Las Vegas for more advanced care, I was terrified."

Upon arrival at Valley Hospital Medical Center's emergency department, McKay was transferred to the intensive care unit, which handles

severe brain injuries.

She was diagnosed with an arteriovenous malformation with an aneurysm developing within it, and doctors said she was in imminent danger of massive bleeding within her brain.

AVM is an unusual jumble of blood vessels connecting arteries and veins. In turn, the AVM disrupts the normal flow of blood from the heart to the tissues via arteries, while veins return the blood from the tis-

sues to the heart. Left untreated, the AVM could rupture, causing further medical complications of a stroke and hemorrhage in the brain, or brain damage.

To treat such a complex vascular disorder requires a specialization in interventional neuroradiology, where small catheters are inserted through blood vessels into the brain within a biplane angiography lab.

► SEE VALLEY, PAGE 6



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Stay up-to-date on medical breakthroughs, learning opportunities, leading-edge medical specialties, the LVMD master plan and much more. Sign up for the LVMD Rx newsletter at lasvegasmedicaldistrict.com

Long range
future opportunities
for the LVMD



UNLV trains future health care professionals

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas has been training health, wellness and medical professionals since 1957, and many receive parts of their clinical education, or begin their careers, within the Las Vegas Medical District. UNLV's five health and medicine-focused schools continue to prepare the next generations of professionals and serve as community partners and resources to Southern Nevada.

SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES

The School of Allied Health Sciences (unlv.edu/ahs) enrolls the most students in a health-focused major, and houses the departments of health physics and diagnostic sciences, kinesiology and nutrition sciences, and physical therapy. During the past year, the school:

- Educated nearly 3,700 undergraduate-level students and 300 graduate-level students.
- Earned national accreditations for its degree programs from multiple educational associations.
- Received nearly \$5 million for multiple research studies.
- Reported student enrollment nearly doubling between 2005 and 2015.

SCHOOL OF COMMUNITY HEALTH SCIENCES

The UNLV School of Community Health Sciences' (unlv.edu/publichealth) faculty and students work every day to improve health and quality of life in Southern Nevada. Recent



The UNLV School of Dental Medicine provides world-class oral health education while providing for the dental needs of Nevada residents.

COURTESY UNLV

projects include:

- Creating a free 20-page guide answering frequently asked health care questions such as, "I just got health insurance. Now what?"
- Eliminating unsafe living conditions in 75 Henderson homes by identifying and removing lead and other hazards.
- Reporting daily pollen and mold spore counts to help individuals reduce exposure to allergens.
- Training more than 2,650 youth, parents, professionals and hospital staff to keep children safe and eliminate maltreatment.

SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Since 2002, the School of Dental Medicine (unlv.edu/dental) has helped improve the health of Nevadans through innovative oral health care, integrated biomedical and clinical education and research. Located in the

heart of the Las Vegas Medical District, the school boasts:

- A highly competitive applicant pool, receiving approximately 2,000 applications for 80 seats.
- Annual patient visits of 50,000-60,000.
- Providing more than \$1.6 million in free oral care to underserved populations across Nevada.
- A variety of low-cost clinics for the underserved: Ferrin Veterans, Ryan White HIV/AIDS, Huntridge Adult Homeless and Teens, Pediatric/Special Needs, and Women's and Children's Clinics.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The UNLV School of Medicine (unlv.edu/medicine) continues its progress to accept the charter class of 60 students in October 2016 pending preliminary accreditation. During the past year, the school:

- Grew faculty/administrative staff from six to 29.
- Received "candidate accreditation" status.
- Developed an innovative curriculum providing hands-on experiences for students to learn critical reasoning and problem-solving skills, and identifying the role of public health in preventing diseases and keeping communities healthy.
- Created a viable and sustainable practice plan.
- Selected architects to design the medical school's academic building.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

The School of Nursing (unlv.edu/nursing) celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2015 and continues to educate its undergraduate students at the Clinical Simulation Center of Las Vegas, which is located near the east side of the Las Vegas Medical District. During the past year, the school:

- Educated nearly 200 undergraduate-level students and 100 graduate-level students within four degree programs.
- Maintained a first-time average NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination) pass rate of 97 percent.
- Earned a third consecutive top 10 percent ranking by U.S. News and World Report for best online graduate nursing programs.
- Reported 88 percent of graduating undergraduate students beginning their careers in Nevada.

► VALLEY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

With the experience of Dr. Raj Agrawal, an interventional radiologist with Desert Radiology, complicated disorders of the brain such as aneurysms, AVMs and stroke are treated at Valley Hospital.

During McKay's procedure for AVM, Agrawal threaded a very thin catheter up to the brain from the femoral artery near the upper left thigh. Once the catheter was in place,

Agrawal worked to reduce the blood flowing into the AVM by using Onyx, a form of glue, to plug up the vessels.

Because traditional surgery wasn't involved, McKay was monitored overnight and went home the next day after spending a total of five days in the hospital.

"Valley Hospital saved my life," she said. "I'd go back in a heartbeat if I had to."

Actually, McKay did have to return — she'd accidentally left her purse behind and the staff held it for her until she could safely reclaim it.



Karen McKay of Pahrump was treated at Valley Hospital Medical Center for an arteriovenous malformation in her brain. She has since recovered.

UMC provides district with high level of care

Hospital features Nevada's only Level I Trauma Center

As an academic medical center with a rich history of providing life-saving treatment in Southern Nevada, University Medical Center serves as the anchor hospital of the Las Vegas Medical District, offering Nevada's highest level of care to promote successful outcomes for patients.

UMC brings a variety of exclusive and highly specialized services to the Las Vegas Medical District, including Nevada's only Level I Trauma Center, only Designated Pediatric Trauma Center, only Burn Care Center and only Center for Transplantation. In addition, UMC offers the most advanced surgical technology in the state.

In support of its mission to serve as the premier academic health center, UMC will be an anchor partner for the new UNLV School of Medicine, training future generations of home-grown physicians by providing residents with valuable opportunities to receive clinical guidance from the hospital's world-class physicians.

While UMC is based in the Las Vegas Medical District, its reach extends far beyond this concentrated center for medical excellence. Offering expertly trained clinicians supported by cutting-edge technology, the UMC Trauma Center serves patients in a 10,000-square-mile area. The UMC Trauma Center has a survivability rate of 96 percent, including patients who were transported to UMC with less than a 1 percent chance of survival. In 2015 alone, the Trauma Center treated approximately 12,600 patients.

"UMC is committed to building upon the Las Vegas Medical District's reputation for providing high-quality care to community members, visitors and patients from neighboring states who rely on our highly trained teams," said UMC CEO Mason Van-Houweling. "Our medical center has



DANNY ROMERO/UMC

Child life specialist Sarah Castiel plays a game with a young patient at Children's Hospital of Nevada at UMC.

served this community since 1931, and we have grown alongside Southern Nevada to support the unique needs of our patients."

UMC provides patients with access to a variety of services and specialties, including a dedicated Cardiology and Stroke Center, a Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, neurology, general surgery and oncology, in addition to many other key services. UMC is the only hospital in Las Vegas to offer on-call physicians seven days a week for specialties such as neurosurgery, urology, orthopedics, ENT, maxillofacial and spine.

UMC and Children's Hospital of Nevada at UMC offer separate emergency departments for adult and pediatric patients, recording more than 106,000 ER visits in 2015.

As a result of its comprehensive



DANNY ROMERO/UMC

Members of UMC's surgical services team perform an operation at the hospital.

approach to health care, UMC is the designated hospital in Southern Nevada for patients from the Secret

Service, NASCAR, National Finals Rodeo and the Electric Daisy Carnival, in addition to other organizations and events that support the local economy.

Also located within the Las Vegas Medical District, Children's Hospital of Nevada at UMC is staffed around the clock by board-certified and fellowship-trained pediatric emergency medicine and pediatric critical care physicians to provide UMC's youngest patients with the high-quality, specialized care they deserve. Children's Hospital of Nevada at UMC is the only hospital in the state to be recognized and accepted as an associate member of the Children's Hospital Association.

"The finest care in Nevada is provided right here in the heart of the Las Vegas Medical District," Van-Houweling said.



Join one of the largest Alzheimer's clinical trials programs in the country, right here in Las Vegas.

Having conducted more than 40 trials in **memory loss, Alzheimer's, Huntington's, Parkinson's** and **multiple sclerosis**, one may be just right for someone you know.

Clinical trials are the only pathway leading to new drug treatments. *Won't you help?*

At Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, clinical trials complement our patients-first clinical care and no-cost social services for individuals and their families. Both clinical trials and social services are available to families regardless of where they receive their neurological care.

Contact us at
855.LOU.RUVO (855.568.7886)
brainhealth@ccf.org

A complete list of trials is online at
clevelandclinic.org/brainhealthtrials



Desert Radiology offers reliable diagnostics

A key to providing proper care to a patient is having the right diagnostics to determine what underlying issues are causing the patient's pain or illness. Having the most reliable radiological diagnostics is dependent on the equipment being used to perform the test and who is interpreting the patient study.

Desert Radiology, the leader in diagnostic excellence in Southern Nevada, has both of these: highly trained experts in radiological medicine to interpret results and the most innovative equipment available.

Desert Radiology is Southern Nevada's chief resource for the quality diagnostic care. Its expert team of radiologists is the largest group of physicians providing quality diagnostic imaging in the region.

Desert Radiology currently has 70 board-certified, U.S.-trained physicians and more than 300 staff members. It operates six outpatient locations throughout Las Vegas and Henderson, and is the exclusive radiology provider for a large cancer center, a group of multispecialty medical centers and several other facilities throughout Nevada. It also has a location in the Las Vegas Medical District.

The highly trained group of radiologists at Desert Radiology includes physicians with a variety of specialties, who have received training at top institutions. Some of the specialties include nuclear medicine, women's imaging, PET imaging and neuroradiology.

The diverse staff has been trained at institutions such as UCLA, Northwestern, Emory, University of Michigan and other prominent universities. All of the physicians are members of the American College of Radiology, and many have other affiliations with professional organizations such as the Radiological Society of North America, the American College of Nuclear Medicine and the Society for Pediatric Radiology.

Desert Radiology offers the latest in MRI technology, providing not only the highest image quality but also taking patient comfort into consideration.



COURTESY

The Desert Radiology medical team consists of board-certified radiologists specializing in pediatric imaging. Shown here is the Siemens Skyra 3T MRI.

For example, the Siemens Skyra 3T Magnetom MRI system delivers high resolution, powerful images needed to make accurate diagnoses, while cutting down scanning time and reducing the need for re-scans through reduced breath-holding time. This machine also offers up to a 97 percent reduction in sound pressure, an issue for sensitive patients.

If a patient requires a CT scan, Desert Radiology offers the Siemens Somatom Definition AS, a low-dose scanner that is capable of adapting to virtually every patient and clinical question. The system allows the lowest radiation dose possible, which is always best for patients. Additionally, the Somatom is open to allow use on every type of patient and can be adapted for any type of CT from neurological to cardiac or any other need.

For breast cancer detection, Desert Radiology offers the Hologic Genius 3D Mammography. This innovative exam uses high-powered computing to convert digital breast images into a stack of very thin layers or "slices" — building a three-dimensional mammogram. This advanced technology can significantly reduce call-backs by up to 40 percent and detect 41 percent more invasive cancer.

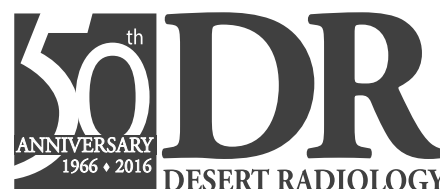
In 2016, Desert Radiology is celebrating 50 years of serving the Southern Nevada community and looks forward to continuing to provide the highest level of care possible. For more information, call 702-759-8600.

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Choose the doctors who are trained with the most **advanced technology**, and are **experts** in their fields.

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MS specialists enhance care at Cleveland Clinic

Those living with multiple sclerosis know that it is a lifelong neurological disease with far-reaching and variable implications. Treatment paths often vary for each patient, and doctors strive to meet the ever-changing needs of those affected by the disease.

This is why the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers developed an “MS specialist” certification program. Seven providers at Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health recently obtained the certification, which reflects knowledge in the specialization of MS care.

Four physical therapists, one occupational therapist, one nurse practitioner and one social worker are now certified MS specialists. The credential illustrates the Cleveland Clinic Mellen Program for Multiple Sclerosis at the Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, Las Vegas’ commitment to offering an interdisciplinary approach to MS care and treatment for more than 2,500 people living with MS in Southern Nevada.

Likewise, the center’s two neurologists, Carrie Hersh, D.O., and Le Hua, M.D., are the only fellowship-trained MS specialists in the state of Nevada. Moreover, the Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health is the only site in Nevada to receive the “Partners in Care” designation from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

“The treatment of MS is much different than the treatment of other



COURTESY

Cleveland Clinic’s MS care team includes neurologists, physical therapists, an occupational therapist, a nurse practitioner and a social worker.

neurodegenerative diseases such as Parkinson’s disease,” said Jen Nash, manager of rehabilitation services at Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health. “Each and every individual patient requires a unique treatment path and a cadre of health care providers and I’m thrilled that the MS team achieved official CMSC recognition of their expertise.”

The goal of the certification process is to provide quality and consistent treatment to those living with

MS. Training entails recognizing and establishing MS specialists, establishing basic knowledge to practice MS and continuing education.

Unlike many therapy programs, the Mellen Program for MS at the Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health focuses on the education of body awareness including, postural control and using exercise to manage symptoms such as fatigue and weakness, which are extremely prevalent in MS.

MS rehabilitation sessions will consist of individualized skilled treatment that requires recommendation from the center’s MS doctors, Hua and Hersh. Those interested in seeking treatment can make an appointment with either doctor by calling 702-483-6000.

A \$1.35 million grant from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation has fueled rapid expansion of the Mellen Program for MS at the Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health. To help patients get the services they need to live a fuller life, the center recently added the Major José M. Fajardo Patient Services Program. The Fajardo Program is funded by a generous gift from Grammy Award-winning singer Gloria Estefan and her husband, songwriter and producer Emilio Estefan, in honor of Gloria Estefan’s father, who suffered from MS that he developed during his service in Vietnam.

The program is designed to reduce stress by increasing knowledge, coping skills and a sense of well-being for patients, family members and caregivers managing an array of new and ongoing challenges. To schedule a consultation with the Major José M. Fajardo Patient Services Program, call the same number and ask for Robert McVey, LSW, MSW.

Additional information about Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health is at ClevelandClinic.org/BrainHealth.

Steinberg Diagnostic introduces new tool for cancer detection

For the very best tool in cancer detection and radiation treatment planning, local oncologists don’t need to look beyond Steinberg Diagnostic Medical Imaging. SDMI recently installed its second Toshiba Celesteion PET/CT system at its newest location in the Las Vegas Medical District at 800 Shadow Lane.

“The Celesteion has not only become the preferred system among our patients, it serves as an excellent planning device for both PET and

CT radiation therapy,” said Dr. Mark Winkler, professor of health sciences at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and founding partner of SDMI.

Designed to be the most patient-friendly system, Celesteion features include:

- Industry’s largest bore — Offering a feeling of openness and versatile patient positioning.

- Fast and accurate diagnoses — Accurate lesion detection with time of flight technology and a 70 cm PET

and CT field-of-view.

- CT dose reduction — Celesteion comes standard with Toshiba’s most advanced CT dose reduction technology, AIDR 3D, and conforms to the requirements of MITA’s XR-29 Smart Dose Standard.

Optimized for oncologists, with its advanced lesion detection, exceptional image quality and much-enhanced patient comfort features, there’s no doubt it will become the standard of care.

“We are very proud of our partnership with SDMI. They are truly fulfilling their mission of delivering an exceptional patient imaging experience, and SDMI is the only radiology practice west of the Mississippi to have it,” said Satrajit Misra, senior director, CT business unit, Toshiba.

For information about SDMI’s Celesteion PET/CT technology, contact Winkler at mwinkler@sdmi-lv.com. To refer patients, contact Jennifer Day at jday@sdmi-lv.com.



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