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Russell Medical to join UAB Health System

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – Russell Medical in Alexander City, Alabama, has entered into a management agreement to become a member of the [UAB Health System](#), following action yesterday by the respective boards of both organizations.

Russell Medical joins other Alabama hospitals as part of the UAB Health System, which includes UAB Hospital, UAB Highlands Hospital, UAB Callahan Eye Hospital and management relationships at Medical West, Baptist Health Montgomery, John Paul Jones, LV Stabler and Bryan W. Whitfield hospitals, along with affiliate relationships with three additional hospitals in the state.

“Russell Medical and the UAB Health System have a lot to offer each other,” said Will Ferniany, Ph.D., CEO of the UAB Health System. “Both parties bring strengths and assets that will improve health care in the Lake Martin region.”

The UAB Health System will have representation on the RM Board of Directors and will work in collaboration with the directors and the existing management team. Under the agreement, UABHS will assist in many of the business aspects of hospital operations, including supply chain logistics, revenue cycle management and compliance issues. UAB will also help with clinical resources such as assistance in physician recruiting and staffing.

RM has been a strategic affiliate of UAB for several years, participating in cancer and telemedicine networks along with outreach in a number of medical specialties, including cardiovascular care, urology and surgery.

“We have a long history with UAB that has served this hospital and the residents of Alexander City and the surrounding area well,” said Jim Peace, CEO of Russell Medical. “The new management agreement only strengthens that relationship and will help ensure RM continues to deliver the exceptional medical care that our community expects.”

The chair of the Russell Medical Board of Directors says he believes the relationship with UAB will enable RM to leverage its programs, services and resources to assist area residents in achieving their highest level of health and wellness.

“As a part of UAB Health System, we can pool resources and work together to adapt to the continuously changing healthcare environment as a part of their network of facilities,” said Hugh Neighbors III. “We are a cornerstone healthcare provider for the Lake Martin area, and we feel

strongly that this relationship will enable us to provide enhanced services with more cost efficient operations.”

RM will continue to be owned by its parent company, Medical Park Inc., and staff will be employed by RM, with no anticipated changes in benefits or salaries. Physicians seeing patients at RM will continue to do so.

“As the flagship health enterprise in the state, UABHS has significant resources and expertise which will be available to RM,” said Don Lilly, UABHS senior vice president for network development. “We will now be able to offer the knowledge, insights and support of our institution to RM in what is truly a win-win for both hospitals, but more importantly, a win for the people of Alexander City, Tallapoosa County and across the state of Alabama who rely on us.”

RM offers advanced birthing services along with emergency and surgical care, pediatrics, cancer treatment, cardiovascular/cardiopulmonary services, wound care/hyperbaric medicine and sophisticated radiology and imaging services.

About UAB Medicine

[UAB Medicine](#) comprises the [School of Medicine](#) and the \$4.3 billion UAB Health System that includes all of the [University of Alabama at Birmingham](#)’s patient-care activities and 2,300 licensed beds in six hospitals, one of which is [UAB Hospital](#) — the third-largest public hospital in the United States, winner of the Women’s Choice award, and one of U.S. News & World Report’s Best Hospitals. UAB is the state of Alabama’s largest single employer and an internationally renowned research university and academic health center; its professional schools and specialty patient-care programs are consistently ranked among the nation’s top 50. UAB is the largest academic medical center in Alabama and one of the top four largest academic medical centers in the United States. UAB’s is advancing innovative discoveries for better health as a two-time recipient of the prestigious [Center for Translational Science Award](#). Find more information at www.uab.edu and www.uabmedicine.org. [UAB: Powered by will.](#)

About Russell Medical

Russell Medical, located in Alexander City, is a progressive, not-for-profit, 81-bed acute care facility serving the needs of east Central Alabama. Russell Medical has been proudly serving the healthcare needs of the Lake Martin area since 1923, and boasts 53 active staff physicians covering 27 medical specialties, and approximately 520 employees. Amenities include: all private rooms; LDR birthing suites; seven OR suites, Obstetrics; Cardiology & Vascular Services; Robotic Surgery; Oncology Services; Transitional Care Unit; Sleep Disorders Center; Women’s Center and Total Fitness exercise & rehabilitation center. Russell Medical operates two rural health clinics, Health Partners of Goodwater and Medical Park Family Care in Dadeville. Campus facilities include; Total Healthcare; UA Medicine – Russell Medical Cancer Center; Wound Care & Hyperbaric Medicine; and Russell Medical Urgent Care. For additional information, visit www.russellcares.com

EDITOR’S NOTE: The University of Alabama at Birmingham is a separate, independent institution from the University of Alabama, which is located in Tuscaloosa. Please use **University of Alabama at Birmingham** on first reference and **UAB** on subsequent references.

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