

## **Q and A**

Pritzker School of Medicine/  
ENH Affiliation:



### **What is an academic or educational affiliation?**

An academic or educational affiliation, in this setting, is one which a medical school and/or a residency or fellowship program partners with another health care institution in order to provide an educational experience of greater breadth and depth than either institution provides on its own.

### **Why does an AMC affiliate?**

Academic medical centers seek affiliation to expand the educational experience for their medical students and residents. The advantages of an affiliation are that students and residents are exposed to different patient populations, different types of practitioners, and a range of experiences with hospital systems and operations. The art of medicine is influenced by the local context (patients, practitioners, and systems). Providing exposure to the different contexts in which medicine is practiced adds to the educational experience.

### **Who else does the Pritzker School of Medicine have affiliations with?**

Yes.

UCMC has several academic affiliations with other hospitals, federally qualified health centers, and clinic networks.

These include:

- MacNeal: Family Medicine
- Mt Sinai Hospital and Advocate Lutheran General: Emergency medicine residents
- Mercy Hospital and Medical Center: Hospitalists
- Mercy Hospital and Medical Center: Psychiatry
- La Rabida Children's Hospital: Pediatrics
- FQHCs, especially the Access network, distributed around the South Side of Chicago: Primary care and selected specialties:

### **How does this new academic relationship affect UCMC's existing affiliations?**

The relationship with ENH will become the Pritzker School of Medicine's primary off-campus educational affiliation, but it will not be an exclusive one. UCMC residency programs will continue their current programmatic affiliations which lend depth and diversity to the training experience.

Unlike other medical schools, Pritzker students and UCMC residents have always received, and will continue to receive, the bulk of their medical education within the University setting. The relationship with ENH will not change that, but it will provide a substantive training program at another site.

The Medical Center has had similar relationships. It had a close affiliation with Michael Reese Hospital decades ago. But the ENH affiliation will be the first large-scale off-campus training site since the relationship with Michael Reese Hospital came to an end in the late 1980s.

### **How does the educational affiliation between ENH and UCMC benefit students from the Pritzker School of Medicine?**

This affiliation will enable Pritzker students to study medicine in a setting that provides different patient populations, a different hospital system, and different practice tools, such as varying information technology systems. Yet the patient care is still administered by academically oriented faculty.

At the main campus in Hyde Park, medical students are primarily exposed to a research-rich environment, with agenda-setting science. They learn about the practice of medicine within the highly complex, high-technology health care platform that a world-class academic medical center provides. That care, in this case, takes place in the context of an urban setting. It has long served medical students well, as evidenced by Pritzker's high rank among the nation's leading medical schools.

Adding ENH to the educational mix provides students with a complementary patient care experience. It will expose students to how physicians practice medicine at a suburban, community-based teaching hospital of the highest caliber.

The art of medicine is influenced by the local context (patients, practitioners, and systems) and providing exposure to the different contexts in which medicine is practiced adds depth to their educational experience. It will take a rich academic learning experience and making it even richer.

### **How does this benefit ENH?**

They will gain the services of a large group of carefully selected, profoundly talented and remarkably devoted medical students and residents at the beginning of their careers. The presence of inquisitive medical students, who seek to understand every clinical decision, is known to improve and enhance the decision-making process for the doctors who train them. The additional residents, in the later stages of their clinical training, will bring physician resources, varied experiences and scientific expertise to the hospital setting.

### **When did the ENH and Pritzker School of Medicine affiliation go into effect?**

The affiliation took effect July 1, 2008.

## **Why did ENH choose to affiliate with Pritzker School of Medicine?**

Pritzker is one of the nation's premiere and most selective medical schools, with more than 7000 applicants each year for about 100 positions. Ranked 16th by US News and World Report, it has been the fastest rising medical school in the U.S. since 2004.

It is also a natural fit for ENH. Two organizations, although similar in many ways, have some differences in enterprise strategies that complement rather than compete with one another. As the region's "national medical center" UCMC has a sharp focus on distinguished programs (distinction trumps size) in complex care and biomedical science, and pursues a strategy of being the leading provider of the most complex care in the region.

## **UCMC has been involved in multiple community activities on the South Side, in terms of health care provision. Will turning attention to the North Shore dilute those efforts in any way?**

No. The University of Chicago Medical Center has a longstanding, deeply-rooted commitment to its community on the South Side. Already among the leading providers of Medicaid in Illinois, the Medical Center recently stepped up its efforts to increase physician access for area residents through two major activities:

- The South Side Health Collaborative (which matches Medicaid patients who use the Emergency Room for non-urgent issues with physicians in their neighborhoods for continuous care close to home); and
- The Urban Health Initiative (in collaboration with multiple South Side hospitals and clinics, forming a coordinated network of care so that patients are appropriately seen in the least invasive and least costly setting for their maximum benefit).

UCMC's support of its South Side community is growing significantly each year, and will continue to grow. In fact, the Pritzker School of Medicine just announced an initiative called REACH (**R**epayment for **E**ducation to **A**lumni in **C**ommunity **H**ealth). It is a stipend of \$40,000 to be given to five Pritzker graduates. It will be in addition to whatever salary they can be offered at a South Side clinic or hospital. It is designed to provide support and incentive to graduates in a way they can afford--given their medical school debt--to contribute community service on the South Side for a portion of their careers. At the same time, the leadership at ENH has been inspired by our efforts in ways that model our Urban Health Initiative in the northern Lake County area, in order to address health disparities and access issues for the underserved population in that geography.

REACH (**R**epayment for **E**ducation to **A**lumni in **C**ommunity **H**ealth)

**It has been reported that UCMC's leasing of physician offices in downtown Chicago was an effort to attract more "paying" or insured patients. Is this affiliation with ENH a similar effort? Will this partnership provide UCMC an opportunity to gain affluent North Shore patients?**

UCMC is in fact Chicago's "national" medical center with a preeminent and world-class reputation for science and medicine. But at times its reputation locally has not been as visible. Going into the hub of this great city, and placing UCMC physician's downtown is in part a way to address that.

The partnership between UCMC and ENH, however, is driven by a spectacular opportunity for an educational linkage. It is also a natural fit because it brings together two world-class research enterprises with an intent to powerfully combine efforts towards creating agenda-setting science that impacts generations of patients. All the financial aspects of this arrangement are built around funding the mutual missions of educating future physicians, advancing science and medicine and modeling community health delivery to underserved populations.

**Isn't UCMC likely to gain patients by moving its brand up north?**

Health care is primarily a local business. Most patients prefer to stay close to home as long as there is care appropriate to their needs. The exceptions to staying closer to home include the need to seek extraordinarily complex and specialized care, the kind UCMC excels in providing. Patients from the North Shore with these complex conditions already do choose UCMC for these serious issues. To the degree, an increased number of patients become more familiar with our highly distinctive programs unique to the Hyde Park campus, we believe our collaboration with ENH will be a benefit for those consumers.

**Will ENH use the University of Chicago Medical Center name?**

No. ENH will launch a new separate identity this fall. ENH will promote the academic affiliation with the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine.

**Is University of Chicago buying ENH? Is this a merger?**

No. This is an educational affiliation fueled entirely by academic mission.

**Will there be collaboration between clinical or research programs of both parties?**

Both institutions have a strong research history and it will be an attractive option to find ways to combine forces and accelerate the translation of new knowledge from the laboratory bench to the patient bedside.

The University of Chicago Medical Center is in the top one percent of all institutions that receive funding from the National Institutes of Health (about \$205 million in 2007) and is fifth in the nation in NIH grants per faculty member. ENH is in the top five percent for funding from the National Institutes of Health (about \$19 million in 2007) and it ranks 9th in the nation among multi-specialty independent research hospitals.

**UCMC has recently begun placing its physicians at Mercy Hospital and at South Side Federally Qualified Health Clinics. Will any current UCMC faculty practice at ENH?**

No.

**Will physicians from ENH be considered as faculty at U of C? Will they receive faculty/BSD titles and academic appointments?**

Physicians who are closely involved in the education of Pritzker students and residents will have the opportunity to apply for faculty titles.

**Will they have admitting privileges or be able to see patients at UCMC?**

No

**What will happen in the next year during this transition period?**

During the next 120 days, Evanston Northwestern Healthcare and the University of Chicago will establish joint governance and planning structure to explore how the affiliation will affect the educational programs for medical students and residents. Information regarding the specific impact on students and residents and the logistical issues will be addressed after this period and will be provided directly by the clerkship and program directors to their students and residents.