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NICU renovations begin Jan. 4

Access to patient care areas on the third floor will change during construction.

Overview

Starting Monday, Jan. 4, the Neonatal ICU on the third floor of the UF Health Shands Children's Hospital will undergo renovations. Construction will be completed in phases. Phase one completion will have NICU III patients moving into the new space in fall 2016, followed by NICU II patients in spring 2017.

Service Access

- **The current NICU third-floor corridor will close Jan. 4.** Access from the Atrium elevators and stairs will be closed during construction.
- **Pedestrian traffic will be re-routed during construction.** Detour signage will direct patients, visitors and staff to appropriate walkways.
- **People can access Labor and Delivery, the Mother/Baby Unit and the NICU from the children's hospital/east elevators.**
- **All services will remain open and uninterrupted.**

Background

The NICU renovations will result in a family-focused, comfortable environment in which medical teams can develop the leading-edge neonatal care for which they're known. The transformation will expand the space from 12,632 square feet to 20,844 square feet and will include 16 new care pods and four private rooms that accommodate family members. Additionally, a dedicated Neonatal Neuro ICU will enable staff to monitor and care for infants with brain injury. The waiting area will include a sibling play area. The unit will also have dedicated breastfeeding areas, and a warm and comforting design with a nature theme in harmony with the rest of the children's hospital.