

New VMTH Pharmacy Set to Open

The new hospital pharmacy is set to open in mid to late January. This project has been on the drawing board for nearly 10 years, and was actually funded as part of the Vet Med 3A project, most of which was completed nearly five years ago. Moving from its current location near large animal reception, the new pharmacy will occupy the recently renovated space near the east entrance of the first floor (previously occupied by Pathology Service). The dispensing functions of Central Service will move along with the pharmacy, leaving only the sterile processing function behind.

This new space will be more efficient for the pharmacy staff, providing them with a larger, more organized working area that will allow them to better meet the needs of students, staff, clinicians and clients. With its location adjacent to the building's loading dock, deliveries will no longer have to be taken through the hospital's main hallway on carts or pallets, and the increased storage capacity will allow for those deliveries to be stocked more quickly.

With custom shelving and furniture, the new pharmacy will present a much more functional and pleasant space for our staff and clients. A new client window and waiting room off the main hallway (separate from the window used by students, staff and faculty) will make for a more comfortable and professional experience for all.

Additionally, the space will provide better security for our medications and supplies. Only authorized individuals will have access to specific work areas via card-controlled entrances.

With the space shortages that exist throughout the hospital, there are several potential uses for the soon-to-be vacated space the pharmacy currently occupies. The pharmacy relocation provides us with a unique opportunity to consolidate the Equine Surgery Service into one location and address serious overcrowding in Livestock Reproduction and Herd Health, as well as Equine Field Service and administrative support areas of the Large Animal Clinic. Preliminary planning activities are already underway, and will pick up steam in the new year.

Landmark Construction, working with Shawn Rasmussen, Frank LaBonte and Mona Perez (from the campus Design Construction Management team), did a wonderful job of minimizing disruptions to VMTH activities during the pharmacy project. Despite their efforts, there were still inevitable adjustments we all had to make to accommodate power outages, heating and cooling shutdowns, detours and all manner of challenges. We want to thank all of you for your incredible patience, consideration, good humor and community spirit during this time. The end result will be well worth it.



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