A topping out ceremony was held on Thursday, August 4, for the newest addition to Emory University Hospital, as construction reached the ninth and final level of the new J-Wing building.

**Facility details**

The 450,000-square-foot, $400 million, state-of-the-art facility will join Emory University Hospital via a two-story bridge crossing Clifton Road, allowing the hospital to expand its services and expert care, while creating an integrated, welcoming and spacious environment for patients and their families. The bridge concourse will also connect the new addition to Emory Clinic and the Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University.

The hospital addition will open its doors to patients in the summer of 2017. It will comprise of 232 patient beds, including 23 critical care beds. Cancer patients, including surgical, medical oncology and bone marrow transplant patients, will be cared for in the new wing by physicians and staff from the Winship Cancer Institute, the only National Cancer Institute-designated cancer center in Georgia. Kidney, liver and pancreas transplant patients also will be treated in the new wing, expanding Georgia’s most comprehensive transplant program.

Included in the new wing will be diagnostic and treatment spaces, anesthesiology pre-operative services and radiology. A food court will offer multiple dining options to patients, visitors and staff. And, an underground parking deck has been added with 500 parking spaces.

With patient- and family-centered care top of mind, staff, physicians and patient family advisors (PFAs) have spent hours designing not just patient care rooms, but all aspects of hospital operations to ensure the best possible patient experience and work environment. Careful planning and detail have gone into the design of each room, furniture, equipment and the surrounding care environment.

"By involving staff, physicians and PFAs in the design of this new facility, patients, families and providers can expect advancements in their care and work environment that have been intentionally designed with the utmost thought," says Bryce Gartland, MD, CEO of Emory University Hospital. "The design reflects an emphasis on exceptional care and high efficiency. From the best location for a light switch to innovative spaces like a demonstration kitchen where patients can learn tips on healthy cooking for their specific conditions, the time and effort we put into creating this facility will make a big difference."

**Job creation**

“The new hospital expansion will not only add space for our patients, but we will create more than 500 new jobs for nursing staff, radiology and surgical technicians, and many other hospital staff,” says Gartland. “We want to attract the best and brightest employees and physicians to our facility to work in a market-leading, growing and innovative environment.”

Approximately one-third of these new jobs will be nursing jobs. "Recruitment is already underway to begin filling the nursing positions for the outstanding new hospital addition,” says Nancye Feistritzer, DPN, RN, chief nursing officer and vice president of patient care services at Emory University Hospital.
Assignment of patient care units by floor

- Level 9 – Bone Marrow Transplant
- Level 8 – Hematology and Medical Oncology
- Level 7 – Surgical Specialties, including Oncology, Urology, Gynecology and Gynecologic Oncology
- Level 6 – Solid Organ Transplant (kidney, liver and pancreas)
- Level 5 (south) – Critical Care
- Level 5 (north) – Unassigned
- Level 4 – Under development
- Level 3 – Under development
- Level 2 – Food services and retail
- Level 1 – Anesthesiology Pre-op Clinic and Radiology
- Underground parking

90-day project look ahead

- Retail food services interior finishes work begins.
- Winship bridge work to complete in September. Bridge opens to the public in 2017.
- Patient room mock-up on the sixth floor to be completed in August.
- Framing throughout the hospital tower will be completed in December.