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Contact: Jason Clevenger, Corporate Communications

jason.clevenger@aultman.com, 330-363-7278

Jeannine Denholm, UH Media Relations

Jeannine.denholm@uhhospitals.org, 216-844-2555

Aultman Cancer Center Affiliates with University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center to Strengthen Cancer Care Throughout the Community

CANTON, Ohio (Nov. 13, 2024) – Aultman has entered into a new collaboration with University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center to enhance cancer care and clinical research throughout Aultman Health System facilities.

Through this clinical affiliation, Aultman cancer patients will continue to be able to receive high-quality care close to home in Stark County and the surrounding community while also having easy access to services and clinical trials throughout UH Seidman Cancer Center. The affiliation will make it easier for patients to receive advanced care, bring additional services to Canton and raise the level of cancer care available locally, all while allowing Aultman to remain the independent, community-focused healthcare organization it has been for more than a century.

“We are committed to growing the expert, quality care of UH Seidman Cancer Center throughout Northeast Ohio and beyond, and this collaboration is the latest step in realizing that vision,” said Ted Teknos, M.D., president and scientific director of UH Seidman Cancer Center and the Jane and Lee Seidman Chair in Cancer Innovation. “We look forward to working with Aultman, while supporting their independence and strengthening the cancer treatment offerings in Stark County and the surrounding communities.”

In September 2022, Aultman opened its brand-new Timken Family Cancer Center, a \$28-million addition to the Canton hospital campus that centralized and added services and convenience for cancer patients.

“We concluded that University Hospitals stands out due to its strong clinical programming, research capabilities and exceptional patient care,” said Rob Mullen, president and CEO, Aultman Health System. “More specifically, the UH Seidman Cancer Center offers the latest cancer treatment protocols and the most advanced innovation and technology for diagnosing and treating cancer, as well as innovative clinical trials to treat all stages of cancer. Between the new Timken Family Cancer Center and our collaboration with UH, Aultman is proving its

ongoing commitment to fight cancer in all its forms and lead our community to improved health. We are also excited that this affiliation supports our mission to remain independent and stay accountable to the local community we serve.”

About Aultman Health System

The Aultman Health System is a nonprofit healthcare organization serving Stark and surrounding counties. The integrated healthcare system includes Aultman Hospital, Aultman Orrville Hospital, Aultman Alliance Community Hospital, the locally managed health insurance provider AultCare, The Aultman Foundation and Aultman College. With 1,032 beds, over 1,000 active providers and a team of more than 7,000 employees, Aultman is Stark County's largest provider of healthcare services. For more information, visit www.aultman.org.

About University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center/Cleveland, Ohio

UH Seidman Cancer Center is the only freestanding cancer hospital in Northeast Ohio, where all clinicians and staff are dedicated to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer while researching new and innovative treatment options through clinical trials. Nationally ranked cancer care is also available to patients through the 12-county region at 18 community-based locations. Our UH Seidman specialists make up 14 cancer-specific teams focused on determining integrated care plans tailored to each patient's needs. UH Seidman Cancer Center is part of the National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated Case Comprehensive Cancer Center at Case Western Reserve University, one of 57 comprehensive cancer centers in the country. Patients have access to advanced treatment options, ranging from a pioneering stem cell transplant program founded more than 45 years ago and a wide range of immunotherapy to the first and only proton therapy center in northern Ohio for adults and children. Go to UHhospitals.org/Cancer for more information.

About University Hospitals/Cleveland, Ohio

Founded in 1866, University Hospitals serves the needs of patients through an integrated network of more than 20 hospitals (including five joint ventures), more than 50 health centers and outpatient facilities, and over 200 physician offices in 16 counties throughout northern Ohio. The system's flagship quaternary care, academic medical center, University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center, is affiliated with Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Northeast Ohio Medical University, Oxford University, Taiwan National University College of Medicine and the Technion Israel Institute of Technology. The main campus also includes the UH Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital, ranked among the top children's hospitals in the nation; UH MacDonald Women's Hospital, Ohio's only hospital for women; and UH Seidman Cancer Center, part of the NCI-designated Case Comprehensive Cancer Center. UH is home to some of the most prestigious clinical and research programs in the nation, with more than 3,000 active clinical trials and research studies underway. UH Cleveland Medical Center is perennially among the highest performers in national ranking surveys, including "America's Best Hospitals" from U.S. News & World Report. UH is also home to 19 Clinical Care Delivery and Research Institutes. UH is one of the largest employers in Northeast Ohio with more than 30,000 employees. Follow UH on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). For more information, visit UHhospitals.org.

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Q&A: Aultman Cancer Center/UH Seidman Cancer Center Affiliation

Q: What is happening?

A: The Aultman Cancer Center has entered into a new collaboration with University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center to enhance cancer care and clinical research throughout Aultman Health System facilities.

Q: What does this affiliation mean?

A: Through this clinical affiliation, Aultman cancer patients will continue to be able to receive high-quality care close to home in Stark County and the surrounding communities while also having easy access to expanded services and clinical trials throughout UH Seidman Cancer Center. The affiliation will make it easier for patients to receive advanced care, bring additional services to Aultman Cancer Center locations and raise the level of cancer care available locally.

Q: Will Aultman still remain independent?

A: Yes. This affiliation supports our mission, which has not changed: We are committed to remaining independent and staying accountable to the communities we serve.

Q: Will the Aultman Cancer Center remain independent?

A: Yes, Aultman will retain full control of the cancer program. The relationship will allow us to work together to add services locally and collaborate on complex cases.

Q: Is this a step toward UH buying Aultman?

A: No. We are affiliating our cancer program with UH Seidman Cancer Center with the shared goals of keeping Aultman independent and keeping cancer care local.

Q: How will patient care be impacted?

A: Patients will have several benefits as a result of this affiliation. It will allow Aultman and UH physicians and providers to work together on complex cases while also giving patients easy access to second opinions. It will also enable patients to take part in the clinical research offered by both Aultman and UH Seidman Cancer Center.

Q: Will Aultman patients have to spend more time traveling to UH locations for treatment?

A: We're focused on keeping our patients' care in their community and helping them drive less for appointments, treatments and procedures. While some patients may receive tests and procedures that aren't available at Aultman at UH facilities, our shared goal is to maximize patient convenience by delivering the majority of care at Aultman locations in their communities.

Q: How will this affiliation impact Aultman staff members?

A: There is no impact on employment for Aultman staff members as a result of this affiliation.



Q: Why is this affiliation taking place?

A: As the region's leading independent health system, it's important for us to strategically work with other organizations to elevate the patient experience while enhancing both care and clinical research, and that's exactly what this collaboration aims to accomplish. Aultman cancer patients will continue to receive high-quality care close to home in Stark County and the surrounding communities while also having easy access to expanded services and clinical trials throughout UH Seidman Cancer Center.

Q: Why did Aultman choose UH Seidman Cancer Center?

A: UH Seidman Cancer Center is part of the National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated Case Comprehensive Cancer Center at Case Western Reserve University, one of 57 comprehensive cancer centers in the country. Aultman's affiliation with Seidman provides those patients with the most complex needs a direct connection for second opinions, expanded clinical research and access to advanced treatment options such as stem cell transplants and proton therapy.

Q: How else will this affiliation benefit patients?

A: There will be several notable benefits of this affiliation:

- Aultman patients will have expanded access to additional services locally.
- The affiliation will benefit Aultman with joint physician recruitment and clinical trial collaboration.
- Patients will have greater access and sharing of care paths and specialized case reviews.
- Aultman staff members will have greater access to education and training resources, including additional opportunities for resident and fellow rotations.