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Brookwood Granted CON to Build Freestanding Emergency Room

BIRMINGHAM, AL (July 21, 2010) – Alabama’s Certificate of Need (CON) Review Board has approved Brookwood Medical Center’s proposal to build a freestanding emergency room at the intersection of Highway 119 and U.S. Highway 280 East.

“We are very pleased that the CON Board saw the merits of our case and the benefits a freestanding emergency room will bring to residents of North Shelby County,” Brookwood CEO Garry Gause said. “We believe in bringing the most-needed services to our patient base at the place where our patients need them most. The congestion on roadways such as Highway 280 makes timely access to emergency care a growing challenge that will only worsen with future population growth. This facility will provide earlier treatment for emergency medical services, when seconds count, which will greatly benefit residents.”

The first of its kind in Alabama, Brookwood’s \$19 million freestanding emergency room will provide hospital-level emergency services for children and adults. The 19,598-square-foot facility will provide around-the-clock care by board-certified emergency medicine physicians with specialty physicians available 24 hours a day. It will also participate in the Birmingham Regional EMS System (BREMSS) Trauma Net for EMS protocols.

The facility will have 24-hour fully staffed laboratory services, along with pharmacy and diagnostic services, including CT, MRI, X-ray and ultrasound. Triage protocols will be in place for stabilization and immediate transfer of patients requiring care from existing acute care hospitals in the Birmingham area. A helipad will be available for emergency air transfer.

To learn more about Brookwood’s plans, visit www.280ERNow.com.

About Brookwood Medical Center

Founded in 1973, Brookwood Medical Center is a 602-bed full service hospital located at 2010 Brookwood Medical Center Dr. Accredited by The Joint Commission, the hospital provides award-winning care in the areas of women’s services, cardiovascular medicine and surgery, cancer, orthopedics, neurology and neurosurgery, mental health, emergency services and more. Other affiliated services and facilities include the Brookwood Diagnostic Center, Women’s Diagnostic Center, Medplex Surgery Center, the Brookwood Advanced Wound Care Center and the Brookwood Primary Care Network. For more information, visit www.bwmc.com.