

SMH Homestead expansion ahead of schedule

Emergency department area will quadruple in size

Construction on the 13,000-square-foot addition to SMH Homestead Hospital is actually ahead of schedule.

Allowances made for rainy days and permit delays have not been needed and work is progressing rapidly. The \$7 million addition and renovation has created only a few problems. Some patients were moved to quieter rooms the day the jack hammers were used. The hospital leased a one acre vacant lot on N.W. 11th Street to relocate employee parking. Temporary entrances and exits were created. The number of outpatient procedures and inpatient stays, however, have not been interrupted or decreased.

Interior remodeling, including complete refurbishment of all patient rooms, visiting areas, physician lounges and nursing stations began in January and are

nearing completion. The hospital is now in the progress of installing a complete sprinkler system. New flooring and furniture will complete remodeling of the second and third floors.

The emergency department expansion will quadruple its size and double the present bed capacity. This is a much needed addition since SMH Homestead Hospital has been one of the busiest emergency rooms of any hospital in the county serving much of South Dade and the upper Keys.

Second phase expansion includes a completely new outpatient center, with an additional 8,300-square-feet for the radiology department and completely new physical therapy department. Total completion is expected in 1993.

The hospital recently purchased 9,000-square-feet of office space is fully leased



to physicians on staff at the hospital and new physicians recruited to the community. Local vendors are being used everywhere possible including the architectural services

of Robert Barnes Associates.

Among the physicians moving to the new office space is Dr. D.L. Goosby, a longtime South Dade pediatrician. "With the

growth of my practice and the expansion of the hospital, I feel this is the best office space available for the convenience of my patients," Goosby said.