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UVA, Bon Secours to Collaborate on Liver Transplant Care

Richmond, Va. (July 20, 2017) – University of Virginia Health System (UVA) and the Bon Secours Liver Institute of Virginia will collaboratively care for patients at Bon Secours' facilities in Richmond and Newport News that may need liver transplants at UVA. The Bon Secours facilities include St. Mary's Hospital in Richmond and Mary Immaculate Hospital in Newport News.

Under the affiliation agreement, care teams from Bon Secours and UVA will co-manage patients at the Bon Secours Liver Institute of Virginia with liver disease – including those with advanced cirrhosis and liver cancer – who will be evaluated for a liver transplant.

“Our goal is to provide patients in the Richmond and Hampton Roads area who have liver disease with convenient, expert care while limiting their travel time,” said Thomas Auer, M.D., MHA, chief executive officer of Bon Secours Virginia Medical Group.

“Through this affiliation, we seek to bring UVA's expertise to more convenient locations and closer to home for patients throughout the Commonwealth,” said Pamela M. Sutton-Wallace, chief executive officer of UVA Medical Center.

Patients who may be candidates for a liver transplant will receive a preliminary evaluation at a Bon Secours Liver Institute of Virginia location, followed by a formal transplant evaluation at the UVA Transplant Center. Patients determined to be candidates for a transplant will receive ongoing disease management and care from teams at the Bon Secours Liver Institute of Virginia, returning to UVA periodically throughout their time on the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) waitlist.

“During this pre-transplant period, patients can largely remain in their home community and receive coordinated, well-managed care from Bon Secours and UVA to prepare them for a transplant,” said Mitchell Shiffman, M.D., medical director of Bon Secours Liver Institute.

Following transplant surgeries at the UVA Transplant Center, patients alternate follow-up visits between UVA and Bon Secours, with care coordinated between the two institutions. Depending on the progress of the patient's recovery, these visits may be formally transferred to Bon Secours within a short timeframe following transplant. UVA clinicians remain engaged with the patient's care and are available as needed.

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“Following the transplant, we will work closely with our colleagues at Bon Secours to monitor and assist patients as they recover and get back to their regular routines,” said Daniel Maluf, M.D., director of living donor transplantation at UVA.

“We believe this collaboration will enable patients to receive high-quality care in a more streamlined way,” said Shawn Pelletier, M.D., director of liver transplantation at UVA.

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About Bon Secours Richmond Health System

Bon Secours Richmond is part of Bon Secours Virginia, which provides good help to thousands of Virginians through a network of hospitals, primary and specialty care practices, ambulatory care sites and continuing care facilities across the Commonwealth. The not-for-profit health system employs more than 8,400 people, including nearly 420 providers as part of the Bon Secours Medical Group.

The fourth largest and only faith-based health system in Virginia, Bon Secours Virginia offers a full range of services including cardiac, women’s, children’s, orthopaedics, oncology, neurosciences and surgery at eight award-winning hospitals.

- Bon Secours Richmond is St. Mary’s Hospital, Memorial Regional Medical Center, Richmond Community Hospital, Rappahannock General Hospital and St. Francis Medical Center.
- Bon Secours Hampton Roads is Maryview Medical Center, DePaul Medical Center and Mary Immaculate Hospital.

About Bon Secours Virginia Health Care Foundation

The Bon Secours Virginia Health Care Foundation raises charitable funds to help Bon Secours Virginia Health System address the community’s growing health care needs with compassion and excellence. Through charitable support, we are dedicated to helping create healthy communities, advancing clinical innovation and providing an extraordinary experience of care. For more information on giving, visit www.bsvaf.org.