



January 21, 2022

Name the New MyLink!

Norman Regional will launch a new intranet and healer app in 2022! Help us name this new product! [Please vote for your name choice](#) by Wed. Jan. 27. After voting, you can enter a drawing for a \$50 Amazon gift card!

Thyroid Awareness Month

January is Thyroid Awareness Month and healers can find great information and resources provided by our Wellness Team on MyLink, including how to perform a neck check and common thyroid conditions. A new post is published every Wednesday in January on MyLink, as well as on the [NRHSWellatWork Instagram](#) page to recognize the month.

OKC Memorial Marathon

Norman Regional has sponsored healer participation for the OKC Memorial Marathon since 2006. This year we are going to open it up to healers and **one** household member, 18+ years or older. **NRHS will pay 1/2 of the healer registration fee. NRHS will also pay 1/2 of one household member, 18+ years, no minors.** All registrations will be checked and verified.

Click [OKC marathon Flyer 2022 MRH.pdf](#) to learn how to register. There is no code. Just bypass this option during the payment process. The amount should be half of the race you registered when you use the link on flyer. Please post flyer and share in your areas. For additional questions please contact Amber Browning, abrowning@nrh-ok.com, or call 405-307-3178.

New this year, the OKC Memorial Marathon, Half

Commissioner of Health Visits Porter Campus



On Wednesday, January 19, Interim Public Health Commissioner, Keith Reed, visited the Porter Campus to learn more about Norman Regional's response to the recent Omicron surge of patients. He was impressed with our physician, clinical and support staffs' ability to quickly change procedures, processes and treatment modalities to meet the needs of our COVID and acute care patients. He also mentioned he was inspired

by the dedication, passion and determination of our staff given the number of COVID patient surges NRHS has experienced. I continue to be strengthened and encouraged by each and every one of you on a daily basis. Together, we will move forward and continue to care for our patients and one another.

DO NOT Use ER for COVID Testing

Due to the Omicron variant and recent surge of COVID cases, we are seeing a large number of people coming into the ER solely for COVID testing.

The ER should be used for **emergencies only** so our emergency medicine healers can help those who need us most.

We are currently pushing communication urging community members to NOT use the ER for COVID testing using social media, flyers, ads, and more, but we also need your help. Our healers are our best asset and we ask that you spread this message whenever possible – share the social posts, encourage friends and family to seek testing at dedicated locations, etc.

Marathon and 5K have new routes! Check out the new courses [here](#).

2022 HealthyWage Jackpot Challenge!

Lose weight, have fun and win cash! The Jackpot Challenge is for NRHS healers and their team-mates. This Jackpot Challenge starts on January 28, 2022, so sign up by the end of that day and start forming your teams! The more people who join, the higher the jackpot. Gather co-workers, friends and/or family to create a team of 4-9 people. You get to create your own team name!

Sign up today!

Each participant pays an entry fee of \$70 (or \$23.33/mo for 3 mos). These funds go into the jackpot. The more people who join, the higher the jackpot!

You and your team have 12 weeks to achieve an average team weight loss of 6%. Every team that hits the 6% average weight loss splits the jackpot.

If your team hits the goal, you are guaranteed a payout! Includes fun online tools, achievement ribbons and weight loss tips. Register here or learn more: <https://www.healthywage.com/jackpot/normanregional/>

Questions? Call 1-888-636-3832 or email info@healthywage.com.

Norman Regional's testing locations are available for appointments. Those needing testing can easily find a location that works for them and schedule an appointment at NormanRegional.com/lab. They can also find a list of local testing locations at TestOKC.com.

For healers needing testing, please remember the process is as follows:

- Healers who think they need to be tested should inform their leader and self-schedule online at <https://www.clockwisemd.com/groups/692>.
- Select COVID Test – NRHS Healer as the reason for visit. Complete all fields on the intake form. We are handling healer specimens separately to expedite testing. If you have difficulty scheduling via the link, please call the COVID Hotline number at 405-515-4328. Add this number to your phone!
- Results will be available for healers on the Patient Portal. To ensure access to results, please proactively access your Hospital Patient Portal prior to collection. You may also request to receive your results via secure email by completing the form found at: www.normanregional.com/request. Please do not call the Lab to ask for your results.

The goal is to facilitate quick, quality results so that healers can get back to work as quickly and safely as possible.

Please remember that healers who test positive for COVID-19, Influenza or both must contact Employee Health at 405-307-1773.

The U.S. Postal Service now offers an opportunity for households to order and receive through the mail four at-home COVID-19 testing kits. Simply fill out the form on the USPS website here: <https://special.usps.com/testkits> and your kits will ship in late January.

Learn more about the free at-home test kits here: <https://bit.ly/3tDw7uJ>.



Labor Pool Support Plan

The recent surge in COVID cases has strained healthcare services across our state and region. To help support our team at Norman Regional, the health system has started using Incident Command for a labor pool support plan. We are doing this process to ensure high quality and safe care while moving patients through our health system. This means:

- **Today, Friday January 21 from 3 p.m. through 7 a.m. Monday January 24, we are reducing the hours of Incident Command**
- If there are questions or support needed from Incident Command during this time period, please use the **24/7 Security Dispatch number 405-307-1482**.
- A Labor Pool has been set up. This will allow us to deploy our workforce to the most-needed areas for extra support. Two hour shifts have been established. We will also monitor how this process is working with a feedback form to be completed by healers.
- Information about how to sign up for the Labor Pool can be found on the homepage of [MyLink](#). Please click the icon at the top with the NRHS logo and a red exclamation mark. Please use Google Chrome to open MyLink. Once open hit the Shift and F5 keys on your computer to refresh the page. There is an issue with the page in Internet Explorer and we are working to correct this. You can also find the sign ups by clicking each of the department names: [Lab](#) and [Labor Pool Support](#).

See a full list of areas needing help and their job descriptions then sign up for a labor pool shift at the below links:

[Lab](#) [Labor Pool Support](#)

Healers working in the hospital will work in groups of two for two hour shifts. They will be rounding on departments in need. After each shift, healers will be emailed a survey to share their feedback so we can improve this process.

Clinical or nonclinical, we are all healers and your help is greatly needed and appreciated!

U.S. Supreme Court Lifts the Injunction Against the CMS COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate for Healthcare Workers

On January 13, 2022, the Supreme Court overturned the stay of the CMS COVID-19 vaccine mandate in the 25 injunction states. Oklahoma was one of the 25 states.

The Supreme Court judges focused on the fact that those seeking healthcare services at this time are likely more susceptible to contracting the COVID-19 virus, and stated, “ensuring that providers take steps to avoid transmitting a dangerous virus to their patients is consistent with the fundamental principle of the medical profession: first, do no harm. It would be the “very opposite of efficient and effective administration for a facility that is supposed to make people well to make them sick with COVID-19.”

For Norman Regional Health System, this means the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) will begin enforcement of the mandate for the first or single vaccination dose on Monday, February 14 and the second or full vaccination dose on Tuesday, March 15. As I shared in November of last year, this CMS rule is a requirement for all hospitals and health systems participating in Medicare and Medicaid programs. It requires actual documentation of COVID-19 vaccine status for every healer in the organization.

We will provide more details and requirements of the COVID-19 vaccine mandate in a One Voice message in the next week.

Be Well,



*President & Chief Executive Officer
Norman Regional Health System*