

FSU and Sarasota Memorial Hospital unveil Physician Workforce program

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SMH and FSU College of Medicine announce residency program

Sarasota Memorial Hospital's CEO, David Verinder announced residency program with Florida State University College of Medicine at press conference.

SARASOTA, Fla. -- The Florida State University College of Medicine and Sarasota Memorial Hospital have unveiled plans for a doctor training program intended to create more primary care physicians in Sarasota County and the surrounding region.

Florida presently ranks 42nd nationally for the number of per capita medical residents. The third most populous state in the nation, Florida faces a severe physician shortage -- particularly in primary care specialties, in rural areas and in the number of doctors to care for the state's rapidly expanding population of older patients.

On average, more than 60 percent of graduating medical students in Florida leave the state for residency training. A physician is far more likely to set up practice in the community where he or she completes graduate medical education (residency or fellowship) than near where he or she graduated from medical school.

There is currently only one allopathic residency program south of St. Petersburg along Florida's west coast. FSU and SMH intend to change that by creating the first training program for allopathic physicians (MDs) in the Sarasota-Bradenton-Venice-North Port region.

The program will begin in about two years after gaining the appropriate accreditation.

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