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Westmed expansion adds primary care capacity

The Westmed Medical Group released details of its 85,000-square-foot expansion (Pulse, Jan. 28). The Purchase, N.Y.-based multispecialty practice signed a lease for a new four-story medical office building with underground parking at 3030 Westchester Ave. Occupancy is set for January 2015.

The building currently is under construction by Simone Healthcare Development and Fareri Associates in the Harrison Executive Medical Park complex. They are building to suit, so Westmed's landlord is financing the build-out. Westmed's rent "is competitive," said Dr. Simeon Schwartz, Westmed's president and chief executive.

There will be room for about 70 doctors, with about 50 new hires over the next few years. Others will be relocated from two Westmed sites that are consolidating.

"Westmed is at capacity. We are preparing for the [health insurance] exchange and we want the physical capacity for the changes in health care," added Dr. Schwartz. The new site will allow Westmed to accommodate another 60,000 to 70,000 primary care patients, "a very meaningful increase in capacity," he said.

The 13-acre medical park has three existing office buildings and is located not far from White Plains Hospital, New York-Presbyterian's White Plains campus, Westchester Medical Center and Greenwich Hospital.

Doctors at the new site will be split evenly between primary care and specialties. Practice areas will include OB/GYN, internal medicine, GI, radiology, vascular surgery, imaging, ultrasound, plastic surgery, sleep labs, neurology, allergy and ENT. The site is Westmed's fifth outpatient medical office. Westmed's strategy is to give one-stop convenience for patients. Its multispecialty practice model offers on-site specialist referrals and ancillary services such as lab and radiology services.