

INSTITUTIONAL VISIT TO THE NORTHERN HOSPITAL

Quick steps to better care

At the beginning of January, Island President Carlos Alonso, Canary Islands President, Fernando Clavijo, representatives of other Government departments and the director of the HUC University Hospital in La Laguna, Soledad Pastor, visited the North Hospital in Icod de los Vinos in order to assess the further expansion on site. The surgical area, which is currently under construction and should be completed in March, in particular was discussed.

The 780 square metre area is to have over €1.4 million invested in its development. It has two operating theatres, an outer and an inner waiting room, a conference room, a recovery ward, various sanitary facilities for doctors and patients and a sterilisation section.

The Hospital de Día, which ensures that patients in need of outpatient treatment do not

have to travel to La Laguna, was also inspected by the politicians. The outpatient pharmacy, which is already in operation, has the same purpose. This closer-to-home care for the patients is a big plus because they don't have to travel such long distances. In addition it should help to noticeably relieve road traffic congestion and the hospital is not yet fully completed.

On the construction plans it was determined in which areas further expansion stages could be accommodated. A magnetic resonance and an endoscopy department, a laboratory and a distinction between the emergency department for adults and children are planned. "During this mandate, we have met an important demand to improve health care in the north and south of the island. This northern hospital will be

a real hospital that can serve the population in this part of the island well," Alonso said. He pointed out that both the



The planned extensions were examined in the plans

Tenerife and Canarian authorities and the health service staff have done their utmost to provide the island's population and visitors with comprehensive and high quality care. The importance of creating this hospital in the north of the island is shown by the high



An inspection of the new operating section, which is to be completed by March 2019

and 13,816 X-ray examinations were performed at the North Hospital.

Between January and November 2018, 38,500 general and 27,446 radio-diagnostic examinations were carried out and 10,118 emergencies were attended at the North Hospital. A total of 957 patients were admitted as inpatients. This data reflects the importance of strengthening health care through this northern centre. Activities increased by 50 per cent, radio-diagnostics by more than 14 per cent and

emergency services by more than six per cent. With regard to the individual departments, cardiology, surgery, digestion, endocrinology, gynaecology, obstetrics, pneumatology, rheumatology, traumatology, angiology and vascular surgery, dermatology, neurology, ophthalmology, ENT, rehabilitation and urology are covered. Patients in need of psychiatric care are treated at the Icod de los Vinos Health Centre. The most modern diagnostic and treatment methods are available in all specialist departments. ■

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