

Mirror image New Oncology Unit shares look and feel of Jimmy Fund Clinic

Jimmy Fund photo: Melissa Parsons, courtesy DFCI

On Tuesday, July 18, a crew of young cancer patients and pediatric oncology staff members officially christened 6 North, the newly renovated, nautically themed Inpatient Oncology Unit at Children's Hospital Boston. Located one floor below its old home, the new unit now neighbors 6 West, the Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation Unit, where young patients prepare for and receive their stem cell transplants.

The move marks a milestone in the pediatric oncology partnership between Children's and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, named Dana-Farber/Children's Hospital Cancer Care. Not only does it consolidate two of the hospital's inpatient oncology units onto one floor, but also, for the first time ever, the inpatient treatment environment looks and feels the same as Dana-Farber's Jimmy Fund Clinic, where patients schedule their outpatient appointments.



JIMMY FUND CLINIC

As you walk into Children's new, 20-bed unit, it's impossible to miss the enormous lighthouse made of thousands of colored tiles on the wall.



LIGHTHOUSE MURAL

"Our team has eagerly awaited the opening of 6 North," says Kathleen Houlihan, MS, RN, Hematology-Oncology/Stem Cell Transplantation nurse program manager at Children's. "Being together will enable us to provide enhanced patient care services, as well as increase our capacity to provide seamless care to our patients."



6 NORTH MAIN DESK

The similarities to the Jimmy Fund Clinic are many: the bright, wide hallways decorated with boats, fish, sand dollars and starfish; the replica of a boat in the playroom; and the colors of the walls and privacy curtains in the patient rooms.

As with the Jimmy Fund Clinic's renovation, patient and family feedback was integrated into the new unit's design. Expanded storage space, a window bed for one parent to use during overnight stays and wireless laptops are available in each patient room.



PLAYROOM



TREATMENT ROOM

The unit also features a procedure room that mimics those in the Jimmy Fund Clinic. Keeping to the nautical theme, patients receiving treatment in this room have the opportunity to dip into a toy-filled treasure chest upon completion of their procedure.



NURSING WORKROOM

The unit also enables the clinical team to deliver enhanced patient care. Physicians and nurses have adjacent workrooms, where they can dictate patient notes, check e-mail and meet to discuss patient treatment plans.



PLAYROOM