Poinciana Medical Center doubles in size with new expansion

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What began as a two-story, 30-bed hospital about two and a half years ago in Osceola County is now a four-story, 76-bed hospital.

Poinciana Medical Center on Nov. 17 opened two more floors and 46 new private-patient beds across 40,000 square feet.

The hospital, owned by **HCA Holdings** Inc. (NYSE: HCA), announced its plans for the $26 million expansion in June 2014, as previously reported by Orlando Business Journal. The project also expanded cafeteria seating and parking areas, and added a community classroom on the first floor, according to a press release.

Joanna Conley, CEO of Poinciana Medical Center, poses for a photo before cutting the ribbon to the new areas of the hospital.

Back in January, the hospital welcomed another expansion, as its original 10-bed emergency department grew to 22 beds and 14,500 square feet.

The growth of Poinciana Medical Center has led to multimillion-dollar construction opportunities for Central Florida firms, and has led to the creation of 300 full-time jobs.

Meanwhile, Oviedo Medical Center, also owned by HCA, is under construction. The 64-bed, $109 million hospital will open in January 2017 near the intersection of State Road 417 and Red Bug Lake Road. Even though the hospital will not open for more than a year, CEO Kenneth Donahey told OBJ it may see a similar expansion timeline as Poinciana Medical Center.

"Within the first five years, potentially within the first three years, we expect to expand the hospital. It's being built with the capability of adding two more floors, and there's space to expand horizontally, too. We're hoping by the second or third year, the demand will prompt us to start looking at expanding," Donahey said.

Oviedo Medical Center is expected to create 200 new jobs and see 35,000 patients in its first year. For an inside look at the future hospital, see here.