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# RM300m for Beacon Hospital expansion

*The hospital is mainly constrained by the lack of space as its current facilities are fully occupied, says its chief ED*

by NG MIN SHEN

BEACON Hospital has allocated RM300 million for the expansion of its facilities to cater to increasing patient volume and rehabilitation care.

Its chief ED Victor Chia said the Petaling Jaya (PJ)-based hospital will be expanding its capacity with a new building to be located near its current premises.

"The new building will add some 200 beds to our existing capacity. We have already spent over RM100 million and will allocate another RM200 million for this expansion," he told reporters on the sidelines of the launch of Beacon's RM1 million PJ Radiotherapy Welfare Fund in PJ on Wednesday.

"Currently, we are still in the planning stages and will submit our plans for approval this year. The new building will likely take three



Beacon Hospital was founded in 2005 as a medical centre specialising in cancer care

years to be completed," Chia said.

He said the capital expenditure will be derived from the group's hospital business.

According to Chia, the hospital is mainly constrained by the lack of space as its current facilities are fully occupied.

"In 2016, we had close to 20,000 patients. We hope to grow this number and will also be bringing in rehabilitation patients through our

new partnership," he said.

The hospital had also recently partnered ReGen Rehabilitation International, a private specialty rehabilitation hospital company. Through the partnership, slated to commence from February 2017 onwards, Beacon will work with ReGen to provide specialist rehabilitation care for local patients.

ReGen is a Malaysian joint venture between Khazanah Nasional Bhd and Select Medical International, a US-based rehabilitation hospital company.

Meanwhile, Beacon is also eyeing to grow its foreign patient segment, which currently contributes under 5% of its total patient inflow.

Chia said the hospital's foreign patients are mainly from Indonesia and Iran.

"We began targeting Indonesia last year through social media and online marketing. The foreign demand is mainly from there. We also recently started a project with Iran," he said.

Beacon Hospital was founded in 2005 as a medical centre specialising in cancer care. It has now evolved into a 100-bed cancer specialist hospital.