

School of Medicine Milestones



The UNM School of Medicine is the work of many hands. From the earliest founders to today's faculty, staff and students, thousands of people have collaborated to create a vibrant community of learners and clinicians who continue to serve New Mexico's health needs.

1961
1968



Dean Reginald H. Fitz III, MD

1964



First entering class of 24 students

1968
1973



Dean Robert S. Stone, MD

1971

State Legislature designates UNM's cancer center as "the Official Cancer Center of the State of New Mexico"

1973
1994



Dean Leonard M. Napolitano, PhD

1978

UNM assumes control of BCMC via lease from Bernalillo County

1979



Primary care curriculum starts with 10 medical students

1987

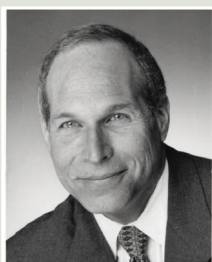
World Health Organization recognizes UNM primary care curriculum as an international model for medical education



1992

New curriculum launched under Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant

1994
Current



Dean Paul B. Roth, MD

2003



Project ECHO telehealth service established, becoming an internationally replicated model for improving access to specialized medical care in rural and underserved areas

2006

Combined BA/MD program launched

Center of Excellence for African American Health and the Black Health Resource Center established

2009

FDA approves Human papillomavirus Vaccine after UNM researchers demonstrate vaccination's prevention potential

2010

Clinical and Translational Science Center created under National Institutes of Health grant

1961

Regents approve two-year medical school

1963



Bernalillo County Indian Hospital designated a teaching hospital

1966

New Mexico Tumor Registry established

Medical school expands to four-year program

1972



School of Medicine now includes occupational therapy, physical therapy, dental hygiene and physician assistant programs

1973

Statewide Office of the Medical Investigator comes under School of Medicine direction

1977

National Institutes of Health funds new General Clinical Research Center

Dean Napolitano becomes director of Bernalillo County Medical Center (BCMC)

1982



First implantable insulin pump is invented at UNM

1983

First domestic Disaster Medical Assistance Team created

University Hospital designated Level I trauma center

1993

Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome identified as School of Medicine works with health departments, Indian Health Service, the Navajo Nation and Centers for Disease Control

1998



First White Coat ceremony

2002

Center of Excellence for Native American Health established

Institute for Public Health established to integrate community service and basic public health principles into the curriculum

2005

UNM Cancer Center becomes one of just 67 National Cancer Institute-designated sites

2014



First BA/MD class graduates



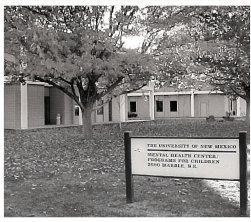
Bernalillo County Indian Hospital admits its first patients October 27, 1954



UNM sets up medical school in former 7-Up bottling plant and mortuary, 1963.



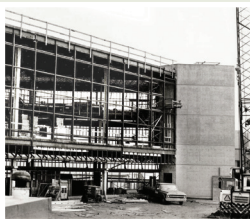
Basic Medical Sciences Building (now Reginald Heber Fitz Hall) becomes first purpose-built facility, 1967.



Mental Health Center admits its first patients, 1969.



UNM Cancer Center opens its doors, 1975.



Health Sciences Library moves to its current home, 1977.



UNM Children's Psychiatric Hospital opens, 1978.



Domenici Center for Health Sciences Education completed, 2006.



UNM Sandoval Regional Medical Center opens, 2012.