POINTS OF PRIDE

When COVID-19 emerged, UNMC and its primary clinical partner, Nebraska Medicine, responded. Faculty and staff monitored evacuated Americans, led the first clinical trial, shared their expertise, moved academic courses online and served as a trusted resource to Nebraskans and beyond.

During the pandemic, UNMC:

- Partnered with the federal government to bring 57 Americans evacuated from Wuhan, China, to Camp Ashland for monitoring of the novel coronavirus.
- Opened the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Training, Simulation & Quarantine Center to train federal health care workers to treat highly infectious diseases. Within months, the 20-bed national quarantine unit (the only designated federal quarantine center in the country) housed passengers from the Diamond Princess cruise ship for COVID-19 monitoring/treatment.
- Led the first clinical trial in the U.S. on the use of remdesivir to treat patients hospitalized with COVID-19 and developed genetic and serologic diagnostic testing for COVID-19.
- Developed 1-Check COVID, a mobile app to allow individuals to self-screen their risk of having the virus.
Developed the Pandemic Recovery Acceleration Model to help public and private sector leaders assess the pandemic’s impact; a planning checklist with evidence-based protocols on cleaning, protective face wear, hygiene, facility use and more; and a series of guides to help meatpacking facilities, child development centers, court systems and higher education minimize the risk of COVID-19 and reduce disruptions to business operations.

Developed a safe and effective method to decontaminate N95 respirators using ultraviolet light. The innovative process, shared with hospital systems across the U.S., allowed multiple reuse of N95s when personal protective equipment was in short supply.

Opened the new Davis Global Center to provide COVID-19 related training for hundreds of clinicians, facilitate research and development projects, create training videos and host multiple virtual training events for rural health care providers.

Beyond COVID-19, UNMC also made headlines when it:

- Eliminated, for the first time, replication-competent HIV-1 DNA – the virus responsible for AIDS – from the genomes of living animals. In collaboration with Temple University, the study marks a critical step toward the development of a possible cure for human HIV infection.

- Reformulated medication to a once-a-year injection as a potential new HIV treatment. The UNMC team developed the world’s first potential yearlong antiretroviral (ARV) for prevention of HIV infection by converting a month-long ARV drug into a once-per-year therapeutic. If clinical studies are successful, the pharmaceutical development may be a therapeutic milestone.

- Completed fundraising in record time and broke ground on the Munroe-Meyer Institute’s new home at 6902 Pine St., adjacent to the University of Nebraska at Omaha’s Scott Campus. The new facility will enable MMI to improve the overall quality of care for individuals with disabilities and complex health care needs.

- Launched a new master’s program in genetic counseling – the state’s first and only accredited program.

Learn more at unmc.edu/servingnebraska
UNMC FAST FACTS

4,055
Students enrolled, fall 2019

5,708
Employed by UNMC (4,913.5 FTE), June 2020

$764 million
UNMC’s operating budget (2019-20)
(21% state-supported)

500 miles
UNMC’s influence reaches across the state with campuses in Scottsbluff, Kearney, Lincoln, Norfolk and Omaha.

$138.6 million
UNMC record in research awards (2019-20)
Chancellor
Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.

National ranking
Primary care, nursing, physical therapy, physician assistant and pharmacy programs rank among the best in U.S. News & World Report rankings.

Major units
College of Medicine, College of Nursing, College of Pharmacy, College of Dentistry, College of Public Health, Graduate College, College of Allied Health Professions, Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center, Leon S. McGoogan Health Sciences Library and the Munroe-Meyer Institute.

Founded
1881, after being chartered in 1869. Originally the Omaha Medical College, the college became affiliated with the University of Nebraska in 1902.

University of Nebraska
The University of Nebraska Medical Center is one of four campuses of the University of Nebraska. The others are the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

International appeal
UNMC’s 342 international students represent 38 countries (fall 2019).

Clinical partner
UNMC’s primary clinical partner, Nebraska Medicine, consists of 809 licensed beds at its two hospitals, more than 1,000 physicians and 40 specialty and primary care clinics in Omaha and surrounding areas. Nebraska Medicine traces its roots back to 1869 with the founding of Omaha’s first hospital. In the decades since, it has built an international reputation for breakthroughs in cancer care, organ transplantation and treatment of infectious diseases.