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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **North Memorial Acquires NOW Care Medical Centers, Inc.**

*(February 1, 2008 – Robbinsdale, MN)* – North Memorial Health Care in Robbinsdale is announcing the purchase of NOW Care Medical Centers, Inc., which operates urgent care centers, express care clinics and occupational health services in multiple locations throughout the Twin Cities and greater Minnesota.

“This acquisition strengthens North Memorial’s ability to provide high quality emergency care to thousands of Minnesotans,” explains David Cress, President and CEO of North Memorial. “Our expertise in emergency services, coupled with NOW Care’s success in urgent care management, will allow us to provide a new level of service to our patients.”

North Memorial and NOW Care have worked in partnership since 2000, with urgent care joint ventures in Elk River, St. Anthony and Albertville. NOW Care also manages the new North Memorial Urgent Care in Maple Grove. Other NOW Urgent Care locations include Mankato, Minnetonka, Roseville and Eagan.

In 2006, NOW Care launched into the retail market, opening NOW Express Care sites in Cub Foods stores. Currently, NOW Express Care sites are located in Apple Valley, Maple Grove, Stillwater, Brooklyn Park, Arden Hills, Cottage Grove, White Bear Lake, and Rogers. North Memorial plans to expand these services with additional retail sites in the near future.

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“More and more people are seeking health care in a convenient retail setting,” explains Patrick Dunleavy, current president of NOW Care who will continue in his role under the new North Memorial ownership. “And we’re excited that North Memorial is committed to providing care in the manner in which the community wants and needs it.”

North Memorial and NOW Care also share synergies in occupational health services, with NOW Care providing front-end services such as drug screenings and treatment for workplace injuries. North Memorial offers full-range occupational health services including rehabilitation. “Together, we offer a comprehensive package,” adds Cress.

Since its inception in 1984, NOW Care has demonstrated significant growth and today employs approximately 300 people with a net medical revenue of more than \$14 million. “After nearly 25 years of successfully growing this urgent care business, I am excited to see its continued success with the North Memorial acquisition,” says Bill Wenmark, founder of NOW Care.

North Memorial is known for providing compassionate, remarkable care to patients at North Memorial Medical Center, a Level I Trauma Center. North Memorial also operates two outpatient centers, numerous primary and specialty care clinics throughout the Twin Cities and a ground and air medical transportation service.

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