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Methodist Mansfield hospital opens for business

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MANSFIELD - Methodist Mansfield Medical Center opened its doors Wednesday and received a boisterous review from one of its newest patients.

Bentley Vanet Kelly was born about 4 a.m., just four hours after the \$134 million, 80-bed hospital opened. The excitement surrounding the opening of the hospital was enough to put her to sleep most of the day, her mother jokingly said Wednesday.

"This is something she'll always remember," said mother Vanessa Kelly of Midlothian.

Within minutes after the hospital opened at midnight, about five patients were in the emergency room, officials said.

Some 20 patients had checked in by late Wednesday, said Lynette Wilkinson, a hospital spokeswoman. Most came through the emergency room.

The hospital, at 2700 E. Broad St., includes surgery facilities; a women's pavilion with labor, delivery and postpartum facilities; a neonatal intensive care unit; a cardiac catheterization lab; an intensive care unit; inpatient dialysis; radiology; and 80 private rooms.

Mansfield residents usually drive to Arlington for care.

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