



Fountain Valley Regional

HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER

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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FOUNTAIN VALLEY REGIONAL HOSPITAL RECEIVES
NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR EXEMPLARY OUTCOMES
FROM THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS**

Fountain Valley, CA – March 3, 2009 — The American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP) has recognized Fountain Valley Regional Hospital as one of 26 ACS NSQIP participating hospitals in the United States that have achieved exemplary outcomes for surgical patient care. As a participant in ACS NSQIP, Fountain Valley Regional Hospital is required to track the outcomes of inpatient and outpatient surgical procedures and collect data that directs patient safety and the quality of surgical care improvements.

The ACS NSQIP recognition program commends a select group of hospitals for achieving exemplary outcome performances related to patient management in five clinical areas: DVT (deep vein thrombosis, thrombophlebitis and pulmonary embolism); cardiac incidents (cardiac arrest and myocardial infarction); respiratory incidents (unplanned intubation, ventilator dependence for more than 48 hours and pneumonia); SSI (surgical site infections-superficial and

deep incisional and organ-space SSIs); or urinary tract infection. The 26 hospitals commended achieved the distinction of attaining exemplary results in two or more of the five areas listed above. Risk-adjusted data from the June 2008 *ACS NSQIP Semiannual Report* were used to determine which hospitals demonstrated exemplary outcomes.

ACS NSQIP is the only nationally validated quality improvement program that measures and enhances the care of surgical patients. This program measures the actual surgical results 30 days postoperatively as well as risk adjusts patient characteristics to compensate for differences among patient populations and acuity levels. The goal of ACS NSQIP is to reduce surgical morbidity (infection or illness related to a surgical procedure) and surgical mortality (death related to a surgical procedure) and to provide a firm foundation for surgeons to apply what is known as the “best scientific evidence” to the practice of surgery. Furthermore, when adverse effects from surgical procedures are reduced and/or eliminated, a reduction in health care costs follows. ACS NSQIP is a major program of the American College of Surgeons and is currently used in over 225 hospitals.

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About Fountain Valley Regional Hospital:

Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center (FVRH), a 400-bed acute care hospital, is one of the most comprehensive medical facilities in Orange County. The hospital’s core services include the Orange County Institutes for Heart & Vascular Care, Spine, Orthopedics, Neurosurgery and Pediatrics, with advanced neonatal and pediatric intensive care. Each center is specially designed to better serve our patients. Our continuum of care also includes the Orange County Regional Cancer Center including a newly renovated Center for Breast Care, labor and delivery, transfusion-free medicine and surgery, 24-hour emergency care including the first accredited Chest Pain Center in Orange County, urgent track, surgical weight loss services, inpatient and outpatient surgery. FVRH is fully accredited by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. To learn more about Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center visit www.fountainvalleyhospital.com.

About The American College of Surgeons:

The American College of Surgeons is a scientific and educational organization of surgeons that was founded in 1913 to raise the standards of surgical practice and to improve the care of the surgical patient. The College is dedicated to the ethical and competent practice of surgery. Its achievements have significantly influenced the course of scientific surgery in America and have established it as an important advocate for all surgical patients. The College has more than 74,000 members and it is the largest organization of surgeons in the world.