



Fountain Valley Regional

HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER

17100 Euclid St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708

www.fountainvalleyhospital.com

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Dina Edwards

Marketing & Communications Associate

(714) 966-8175

FOUNTAIN VALLEY REGIONAL HOSPITAL'S DIABETES EDUCATION PROGRAM MERITS ADA RECOGNITION

Fountain Valley, CA – June 11, 2010 – The prestigious American Diabetes Association Education Recognition Certificate for a quality diabetes self-management education program was recently awarded to the Orange County Regional Diabetes Center at Fountain Valley Regional Hospital. ADA believes that this program offers high-quality education that is an essential component of effective diabetes treatment.

The Association's Education Recognition Certificate assures that educational programs meet the National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education Programs. These standards were developed and tested under the auspices of the national Diabetes Advisory Board in 1983 and were revised by the diabetes community in 1994 and 2000.

Programs apply for Recognition voluntarily. Programs that achieve Recognition status have a staff of knowledgeable health professionals who can provide participants with comprehensive information about diabetes management. "The process gives professionals a national standard by which to measure the quality of services they provide," comments Allison Hickey, Executive Director, Western Division of the American Diabetes Association. "And of course, it assures the consumer that he or she will likely receive high-quality service." Education Recognition status is verified by an official certificate from ADA and awarded for three years.

According to the American Diabetes Association, there are 20.8 million people or 7% of the population in the United States who have diabetes. While an estimated 14.6 million have been diagnosed, unfortunately, 6.2 million people are not aware that they have this disease. Each day approximately 4,110 people are diagnosed with diabetes. Many will first learn that they have diabetes when they are treated for one of its life-threatening complications – heart disease and stroke, kidney disease, blindness, and nerve disease and amputation. About 1.5 million new cases of diabetes were diagnosed in people aged 20 years or older in 2005. Diabetes contributed to 224,092 deaths in 2002. Since 1987 the death rate due to diabetes has increased by 45%, while the death rates due to heart disease, stroke, and cancer have declined.

"Our focus is to help diabetic patients in our community manage their condition," explains Laura Garcia, RN, CVN, BSN, PHN, CDE, the hospital's Diabetes Program Coordinator. "We serve a diverse population and that's why our services are offered in English, Spanish and Vietnamese for both adults and kids."

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About The American Diabetes Association:

The American Diabetes Association is the nation's leading non-profit health organization supporting diabetes research, advocacy and information for health professionals, patients and the public. Founded in 1940, the Association has an area office in every state and conducts programs in communities nationwide. For more information contact the ADA online at www.diabetes.org.

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 maternity care and the Orange County Institutes for Heart & Vascular Care, Spine, Orthopedics, Neurosurgery and Pediatrics, with advanced neonatal and pediatric intensive care. Our continuum of care also includes The Orange County Regional Diabetes Center, The Center for Breast Care, Surgical Weight Loss services, transfusion-free medicine and surgery, and 24-hour emergency care including the first accredited Chest Pain Center in Orange County. 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.