



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release...

Heart Hospital of New Mexico Awarded Accreditation from Joint Commission

7/28/2000 - Albuquerque, New Mexico: Heart Hospital of New Mexico has achieved accreditation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) as a result of its demonstrated compliance with the Joint Commission's nationally recognized health care standards.

Formed in 1951, the Joint Commission is dedicated to improving the quality of the nation's health care through voluntary accreditation. The Joint Commission's on-site surveys of the Heart Hospital of New Mexico occurred November 16-17, 1999 and April 26-27, 2000.

"Above all, the national standards are intended to stimulate continuous, systematic and organization-wide improvement in an organization's performance and the outcomes of care," says Russell P. Massaro, M.D., executive vice president, Division of Accreditation Operations, Joint Commission. "The community should be proud that the Heart Hospital of New Mexico is focusing on the most challenging goal - to continuously raise quality to higher levels."

Trudy Land, President and CEO, Heart Hospital of New Mexico, stated "our performance during the survey, and our outcome, underscores our commitment to providing quality care to our patients."

###