



Press Release



MADIGAN HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Madigan awarded Joint Commission Gold Seal

MADIGAN ARMY MEDICAL CENTER, Tacoma, Wash. — Madigan Healthcare System has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal Approval™ for accreditation by demonstrating compliance with the organization's national standards for health care quality and safety in hospitals.

The healthcare system, responsible for providing care to more than 112,000 beneficiaries through a network of health care facilities located in Washington, Oregon and California, received its accreditation letters from the Joint Commission last week with an actual accreditation date of August 13, 2011.

The accreditation award recognizes Madigan's dedication to continuous compliance with The Joint Commission's state-of-the-art standards. The accreditation also identified several of the organization's best-practices including one in the area of actionable population health improvements in its primary care clinics.

"In achieving Joint Commission accreditation, Madigan Healthcare System staff have demonstrated their dedication to the highest level of service for those whom we are privileged to provide care," said Col. (Dr.) Dallas Homas, Madigan commander. "I am extremely proud of the professionals who work throughout the many organizations that comprise the Madigan Healthcare System. Their commitment to providing quality, safe health care cannot be over emphasized."

The Joint Commission's hospital standards address important functions relating to the care of patients and the management of hospitals. The standards are developed in consultation with health care experts, providers, measurement experts and patients.

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To earn and maintain accreditation, a hospital must undergo an on-site survey by a Joint Commission survey team. The survey team can include one or more health care professionals, including a physician, nurse, life safety code specialist, or hospital administrator who has senior management level experience. An organization can have a survey between 18 and 36 months after its previous full survey. Madigan's prior accreditation was earned after an on-site survey in 2008.

Founded in 1951, The Joint Commission seeks to continuously improve health care for the public, in collaboration with other stakeholders, by evaluating health-care organizations and inspiring them to excel in providing safe and effective care of the highest quality and value. The Joint Commission evaluates and accredits more than 18,000 health-care organizations and programs in the United States. An independent, not-for-profit organization, The Joint Commission is the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care.

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