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NIAGARA HEALTH CENTER AWARDED ACCREDITATION FROM JOINT COMMISSION

Niagara, Wisconsin, September 6, 2007– By demonstrating compliance with The Joint Commission’s national standards for health care quality and safety, Niagara Health Center has earned the Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval™.

“We sought accreditation for our organization because we want to demonstrate our commitment to the Niagara Health Center’s safety and quality care,” says Vijay Singh, MD, Medical Director, “We view obtaining Joint Commission accreditation as another step toward achieving excellence.”

The Joint Commission conducted an unannounced, on-site evaluation of Niagara Health Center on May 24th and 25th, 2007. The accreditation award recognizes Niagara Health Center’s dedication to complying with the Joint Commission’s state-of-the-art standards on a continuous basis.

“Accreditation by The Joint Commission sets Niagara Health Center apart,” says Michael Kulczycki, executive director, Ambulatory Care Accreditation Program, The Joint Commission. “Organizations awarded this Gold Seal of Approval™ dedicate themselves to continuous operational improvement.”

Founded in 1951, The Joint Commission seeks to continuously improve the safety and quality of care provided to the public through the provision of health care accreditation and related services that support performance improvement in health care organizations. The Joint Commission evaluates and accredits nearly 15,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States, including more than 8,000 hospitals and home care organizations, and more than 6,800 other health care organizations that provide long term care, assisted living, behavioral health care, laboratory and ambulatory care services. The Joint Commission also accredits health plans, integrated delivery networks, and other managed care entities. In addition, The Joint Commission provides certification of disease-specific care programs, primary stroke centers, and health care staffing services. An independent, not-for-profit organization, The Joint Commission is the nation’s oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care.