



# Northridge Hospital Medical Center

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **NORTHRIDGE HOSPITAL TRAUMA CENTER RECEIVES LEVEL II VERIFICATION FROM THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS**

Northridge, CA --The trauma center at Northridge Hospital Medical Center has been verified as a Level II Trauma Center by the Verification Review Committee (VRC), an ad hoc committee of the Committee on Trauma (COT) of the American College of Surgeons (ACS). This achievement recognizes the trauma center's dedication to providing the highest levels of clinical quality to injured patients.

Established by the American College of Surgeons in 1987, the COT's Consultation/Verification Program for Hospitals promotes the development of trauma centers in which participants provide not only the hospital resources necessary for trauma care, but also the entire spectrum of care to address the needs of all injured patients. This spectrum encompasses the prehospital phase through the rehabilitation process. Verified trauma centers must meet the essential criteria that ensure trauma care capability and institutional performance, as outlined by the American College of Surgeons' Committee on Trauma in its current *Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient* manual.

The ACS Committee on Trauma's verification program does *not* designate trauma centers. Rather, the program provides confirmation that a trauma center has demonstrated its commitment to providing the highest quality trauma care for all injured patients. The actual establishment and the *designation* of trauma centers is the function of local, regional, or state health care systems agencies, such as the local emergency medical services (EMS) authority.

There are five separate categories of verification in the COT's program. Each category has specific criteria that must be met by a facility seeking that level of verification (*see attachment to this press release*). Each hospital has an on-site review by a team of experienced site reviewers, who use the current *Resources for the Optimal Care of the Injured Patient* manual as a guideline in conducting the survey.

The American College of Surgeons is a scientific and educational association of surgeons that was founded in 1913 to raise the standards of surgical education and practice and to improve the care of the surgical patient. The College has over 72,000 members and it is the largest association of surgeons in

the world. Longstanding achievements have placed the ACS in the forefront of American surgery and have made it an important advocate for all surgical patients.

Proudly serving the 1.9 million residents of the San Fernando Valley for more than 50 years, Northridge Hospital Medical Center stands as a leading provider of quality healthcare to the community. Conveniently located on Roscoe Boulevard in Northridge, Valley residents have easy access to a comprehensive number of outstanding medical care services.

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*For more information on the Northridge Trauma Center, Trauma Center Care, or interview with a Senior Trauma Specialist, please contact Lysa Barry at (818) 716-7111.*