

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Morgan Memorial Hospital Awarded Accreditation From the Joint Commission

Madison, GA—Morgan Memorial Hospital (MMH) has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® for Laboratory Services Accreditation by demonstrating continuous compliance with The Joint Commission's national standards for healthcare quality and safety in laboratories. The Gold Seal of Approval® is a symbol of quality that reflects an organization's commitment to providing safe and effective patient care.

"We voluntarily sought re-accreditation for our laboratory because we want to demonstrate our commitment to our patient's safety and providing quality care," said Roger Moon, Laboratory Manager at Morgan Memorial. "Continued accreditation following an unannounced survey should give our patients confidence that we are a reputable facility with both the staff and the technology needed to meet their healthcare needs."

Morgan Memorial's laboratory underwent the rigorous, unannounced on-site survey in October of 2014. During the review, a Joint Commission expert surveyor evaluated compliance with laboratory standards related to several areas, including document and process control, healthcare-associated conditions, risk reduction, and staff qualifications and competency. The surveyor also conducted on-site observations and interviews. The hospital recently received formal notification of continued accreditation.

Ralph Castillo, MMH CEO, credits the successful survey to the efforts of the staff members working at MMH. "In our quest to become a patient-focused center of excellence we require organization-wide dedication to the overall care and safety of our patients. The outcome of our most recent survey is further evidence that our employees are excellent."

The Joint Commission has been evaluating and accrediting hospital laboratory services since 1979 and freestanding laboratories since 1995. Today, more than 1,500 organizations, including laboratories in hospitals, reference labs, blood transfusion and donor centers, public health laboratories, and point-of-care test sites, maintain Laboratory Services Accreditation from The Joint Commission, awarded for a two-year cycle.

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“Joint Commission accreditation provides laboratories with the processes needed to improve in a variety of areas from specimen collection to result reporting,” said Stacy Olea, MT(ASCP), FACHE executive director, Laboratory Services Accreditation program, The Joint Commission. “We commend Morgan Memorial for its efforts to have laboratory services contribute and support the overall healthcare delivery system.”

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Founded in 1951, **The Joint Commission** seeks to continuously improve healthcare for the public, in collaboration with other stakeholders, by evaluating healthcare organizations and inspiring them to excel in providing safe and effective care of the highest quality and value. The Joint Commission accredits and certifies more than 20,500 organizations and programs in the United States, including hospitals and healthcare organizations that provide ambulatory and office-based surgery, behavioral health, home care, laboratory, and nursing home services. An independent, not-for-profit organization, The Joint Commission is the nation’s oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in healthcare.

Morgan Memorial Hospital is 25-bed non-profit Critical Access Hospital located in Madison, Georgia. Certified as a Level IV Trauma Center, the facility hosts a 24-hour emergency room, wide array of diagnostic outpatient services, and serves patients through acute care and swing bed programs. Morgan Memorial Hospital was established in 1960 and is accredited by The Joint Commission.