



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Bucyrus Community Hospital Receives Accreditation From DNV Healthcare

BUCYRUS – July 26, 2011 – Bucyrus Community Hospital has received accreditation from a new quality-based accrediting body, DNV (Det Norske Veritas) Healthcare. DNV's NIAHO service is the first, new federally-approved accreditation program in more than 30 years, and offers Bucyrus Community Hospital the opportunity to simultaneously satisfy its Medicare accreditation requirements and implement the ISO 9001 Quality Management System.

Hospital accreditation is a key component to patient safety in that it measures the level of performance in areas such as continuous improvement, quality assurance, and error reduction. Knowing that a hospital has reputable credentials and accreditation, patients can be assured that the hospital adheres to quality standards, medical codes and professional ethics. By law, hospitals must be accredited by a Medicare-approved accreditation program in order to be reimbursed for care provided to patients covered by Medicare and Medicaid. Without it, most hospitals would only be able to provide care for a small fraction of the community they now serve. ISO 9001 is recognized by businesses around the world as the benchmark for continual quality improvement. Innovative hospitals have started embracing ISO as a way to identify and

focus on the most successful approaches to patient care, billing, and other critical aspects of running a modern hospital.

“This is more than a new accreditation program for us. It’s a more formalized process for our ongoing commitment to both patient safety and quality care,” says Jeanne Perkins, Vice President of Patient Care Services at Bucyrus Community Hospital. “By working with the DNV, we can achieve full ISO compliance and satisfy our annual accreditation requirements at the same time. It is a win for us, our patients, and our community.”

Accreditation directly affects the quality of hospital care because during the accreditation process, critical decisions are made on how the hospital treats diseases, stores medications, allocates nursing staff and conducts billing and reimbursement. “The key thing about the DNV is their ability to promote the best ideas,” comments Perkins. “We have always known that every single department contributes to our success, and our survey validated that. The surveyor’s interaction with staff was more educational and less confrontational. The DNV is very familiar to hospitals that have been undergoing Medicare accreditation and they will hold us accountable to ensure that our processes are well planned and managed, that we do measurements, and show continual improvement. The DNV philosophy is helping us focus on what we want to accomplish.”

DNV accreditation protocols closely follow the Medicare Conditions of Participation and require Bucyrus Community Hospital to become fully ISO 9001 compliant within two years. DNV surveyors will visit the hospital on regular, annual intervals to help ensure progress against specific organizational goals.

For more information about Bucyrus Community Hospital, visit www.bchonline.org.

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