Providence Cancer Program Accredited by the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons

Waco, Texas (April 12, 2011) – The Commission on Cancer (CoC) of the American College of Surgeons (ACoS) has granted Three-Year Accreditation with Commendation to the Cancer Program at Providence Healthcare Network.

A facility receives a Three-Year Accreditation with Commendation following the onsite evaluation by a physician surveyor during which the facility demonstrates a Commendation level of compliance with one or more standards that represent the full scope of the cancer program (cancer committee leadership, cancer data management, clinical services, research, community outreach and quality improvement).

The Accreditation Program, a component of the CoC, sets quality-of-care standards for cancer program and reviews the programs to ensure they conform to those standards. Accreditation by the CoC is given only to those facilities that have voluntarily committed to providing the highest level of quality cancer care and that undergo a rigorous evaluation process and review of their performance. To maintain accreditation, facilities with CoC-accredited cancer programs must undergo an on-site review every three years.

Receiving care a COC-accredited cancer program ensures that a patient will have access to:
- comprehensive care, including a range of state-of-the-art services and equipment
- a multispecialty-team approach to coordinate the best treatment options
- access to cancer-related information, education and support
- a cancer registry that collects data on type and state of cancers and treatment results and offers lifelong patient follow-up
- ongoing monitoring and improvement of care

And, most importantly,
- Quality care close to home

Cancer patient data are presorted by each CoC-accredited cancer program to the CoC’s National Cancer Data Base (NCDB), a joint CoC/American Cancer Society program. The NCDB currently contains anonymous patient demographics, tumor characteristics and treatment outcomes information for more than 18 million cancer patients diagnosed and treated at hospital cancer programs in the US between 1985 and 2004. NCDB data is regularly used to monitor and improve the quality of patient care delivered in CoC-accredited cancer programs.

Through an exclusive partnership with the American Cancer Society, the CoC provides the public with information on resources, services and cancer treatment experience for each CoC-accredited cancer program. This information is shared with the public on the American Cancer Society’s Web site at www.cancer.org

For more information about the Commission on Cancer visit www.facs.org/cancer/index.html. For more information about the Providence Cancer Program visit www.providence.net/medical-services/cancer-care.html

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About the Providence Healthcare Network
Rooted in the loving ministry of Jesus as healer, we commit ourselves to serving all persons with special attention to those who are poor and vulnerable. Our Catholic health ministry is dedicated to spiritually centered, holistic care, which sustains and improves the health of individuals and communities. We are advocates for a compassionate and just society through our actions and our words.