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Highland District Hospital awarded General Hospital and Laboratory Accreditation from The Joint Commission

Hillsboro, Ohio, March 10, 2023 – Highland District Hospital has earned The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval® for Critical Access Hospital and for Laboratory Accreditation by demonstrating continuous compliance with its performance standards. The Gold Seal is a symbol of quality that reflects a health care organization’s commitment to providing safe and quality patient care.

Highland District Hospital underwent two rigorous, unannounced onsite surveys for the General Hospital and for the Laboratory. During the surveys, a team of Joint Commission Surveyors evaluated compliance with services surveyed under the Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Critical Access Hospitals and the Comprehensive Accreditation Manual for Laboratories spanning several areas including: environment of care, emergency management, human resources, infection prevention and control, information management, leadership, life safety, medication management, medical staff, national patient safety goals, nursing, provision of care, treatment and services, performance improvement, record of care, rights and responsibilities of the individual, transplant safety, waived testing, and document and process control.

The Joint Commission’s standards are developed in consultation with health care experts and providers, measurement experts, and patients. They are informed by scientific literature and expert consensus to help health care organizations measure, assess, and improve performance. The surveyors also conducted onsite observations and interviews.

“As a health care accreditor, The Joint Commission works with health care organizations across settings to help improve patient safety and quality of care through our expert resources and tools, innovative solutions, and rigorous standards,” says Deborah Ryan, MS, RN, interim executive vice president, Accreditation and Certification Operations, The Joint Commission. “We commend Highland District Hospital for its commitment to advance safety and quality for all patients.”

“Our successful survey was a direct reflection of the importance we put on quality and safety standards within our organization for our community. We have worked very hard to achieve these results and are very proud to say that both surveys resulted in a combined 98% compliance rate,” stated Tim Parry, President and Chief Executive Officer.

The hospital's Performance Improvement and Corporate Compliance (PI/CC) Survey Readiness Team spent time each month reviewing each area of the hospital to ensure compliance was met with The Joint Commission and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services standards, while working with managers to make improvements where needed. Staff completed required trainings, certifications, policy reviews, made improvements to care processes and documentation in advance of survey. The Director of Performance Improvement and Corporate Compliance, Rebecca Short, BSN, facilitated the successful survey process with surveyors.

For more information, please visit [The Joint Commission website](#).

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