



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**VA Loma Linda Earns “*Top Performer on Key Quality Measures*®”
Recognition from the Joint Commission**

LOMA LINDA, Calif. – The Jerry L. Pettis Memorial VA Medical Center in Loma Linda was named a “*Top Performer on Key Quality Measures*®” by The Joint Commission, the leading accreditor of health care organizations in America.

VA Loma Linda was recognized by The Joint Commission for exemplary performance in using evidence-based clinical processes that are shown to improve care for certain conditions. The clinical processes focus on care for heat attack, pneumonia, surgery, asthma, stroke or venous thromboembolism, as well as inpatient psychiatric services. New this year is a category for immunization for pneumonia and influenza.

VA Loma Linda is one of 1,099 hospitals and one of 32 Veterans Affairs medical centers earning the distinction of *Top Performer on Key Quality Measures* for attaining and sustaining excellence in accountability measuring performance. VA Loma Linda was recognized for its achievement on the following measure sets: Heart Attack, Heart Failure, Pneumonia, and Surgical Care.

“We are proud of the medical facilities that have been recognized for demonstrating VA’s commitment to provide the high-quality care our Veterans have earned through their service,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. “This achievement highlights the hard work of our VA medical staff to serve Veterans.”

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TOP PERFORMER 2/2/2

To be designated as a Top Performer on Key Quality Measures, VA Loma Linda had to:

- Achieve cumulative performance of 95 percent or above across all reported accountability measures,
- Achieve performance of 95 percent or above on each and every reported accountability measure where there are at least 30 denominator cases,
- And have at least one core measure set that has a composite rate of 95 percent or above, and (within that measure set) all applicable individual accountability measures have a performance rate of 95 percent or above.

“The Jerry L. Pettis Memorial VA Medical Center and all the Top Performer hospitals have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to quality improvement and they should be proud of their achievement,” says Mark R. Chassin, M.D., FACP, M.P.P., M.P.H., president and chief executive officer, The Joint Commission.

“We understand that what matters most to our Veteran patients is safe, effective care,” says Barbara Fallen, FACHE, director of the VA Loma Linda Healthcare System. “That’s why we have made a commitment to accreditation and to positive patient outcomes through evidence-based care processes. VA Loma Linda is proud to receive the distinction of being a Joint Commission Top Performer on Key Quality Measures.”

In addition to being included in The Joint Commission’s “Improving America’s Hospitals” annual report, VA Loma Linda will be recognized on The Joint Commission’s Quality Check website (www.qualitycheck.org). The Top Performer program will be featured in the December issues of The Joint Commission Perspectives and The Source.

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The Jerry L. Pettis Memorial VA Medical Center is the centerpiece of the VA Loma Linda Healthcare System. Opened in 1977, it is located ½ mile from its major affiliate, Loma Linda University. The VA Loma Linda Healthcare System is one of the top 25 employers in the Inland Empire. With approximately 2,500 employees and more than 1,000 volunteers, it serves more than 67,000 Veterans who entrust their health care needs to VA for a wide variety of services through inpatient and outpatient care. VA provides primary care and mental health at outpatient clinics located in Blythe, Corona, Palm Desert, Murrieta, Rancho Cucamonga and Victorville.