



**For Immediate Release
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**Southwest Regional Medical Center Awarded
Accreditation From the Joint Commission**

WAYNESBURG, PA – By demonstrating compliance with The Joint Commission's national standards for health care quality and safety, Southwest Regional Medical Center has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval™.

Founded in 1951, The Joint Commission is dedicated to continuously improving the safety and quality of the nation's health care through voluntary accreditation. The Joint Commission's on-site survey of Southwest Regional occurred in March.

“Above all, the national standards are intended to stimulate continuous, systematic and organization-wide improvement in an organization’s performance and the outcomes of care,” says Mark Pelletier, R.N., M.S, executive director, Hospital Programs, Accreditation and Certification Services, The Joint Commission. “The community should be proud that Southwest Regional is focusing on the most challenging goal—to continuously raise quality and safety to higher levels.”

Cindy Cowie, CEO spoke of her pride in a staff whose members ask what needs to be done to be accredited by The Joint Commission. "Our staff appreciated the educational aspect of the survey and the opportunity to interact with the team of surveyors. This Accreditation is a true validation of several years of very hard work and our dedication to providing quality care. It validates where we are and how far we have come to get here.”

In addition to the hospital accreditation, the hospital’s home health agency, Southwestern Home Care, also received accreditation. “All the staff at Southwestern Home Care should be proud of this accomplishment,” continued Cowie. “The seal of approval further demonstrates the quality of care they are offering our community.

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