

[Moreno Valley, CA] – Riverside County Regional Medical Center has been verified as a Level II Trauma Center by the Verification Review Committee (VRC), an ad hoc committee of the Committee on Trauma (COT) of the American College of Surgeons (ACS). This achievement recognizes the trauma center's dedication to providing optimal care for injured patients.

"Riverside County Regional Medical Center has assigned a significant amount of resources to ensure the highest quality of care for trauma patients. The recognition from the American College of Surgeons as the first verified trauma center in Riverside County validates the efforts in providing excellence in trauma care," said Arnold Tabuenca, M.D., RCRMC's Chief Medical Officer.

Established by the American College of Surgeons in 1987, the COT's Consultation/Verification Program for Hospitals promotes the development of trauma centers in which participants provide not only the hospital resources necessary for trauma care, but also the entire spectrum of care to address the needs of all injured patients. This spectrum encompasses the prehospital phase through the rehabilitation process.

Verified trauma centers must meet the essential criteria that ensure trauma care capability and institutional performance, as outlined by the American College of Surgeons' Committee on Trauma in its current *Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient* manual.

The ACS Committee on Trauma's verification program does not designate trauma centers. Rather, the program provides confirmation that a trauma center has demonstrated its commitment to providing the highest quality trauma care for all injured patients. The actual establishment and the *designation* of trauma centers is the function of local, regional, or state health care systems agencies, such as the local emergency medical services (EMS) authority.

There are five separate categories of verification in the COT's program. Each category has specific criteria that must be met by a facility seeking that level of verification (see below). Each hospital has an on-site review by a team of experienced site reviewers, who use the current *Resources for the Optimal Care of the Injured Patient* manual as a guideline in conducting the survey.

The American College of Surgeons is a scientific and educational association of surgeons that was founded in 1913 to raise the standards of surgical education and practice and to improve the care of the surgical patient.

The College has over 72,000 members and it is the largest association of surgeons in the world. Longstanding achievements have placed the ACS in the forefront of American surgery and have made it an important advocate for all surgical patients.

ABOUT RCRMC

Since 1893, RCRMC (formerly known as Riverside General Hospital) has served as a vital resource to the residents of Riverside County, providing the highest standard of health care.

As a Level II Trauma Center for adults and pediatrics, RCRMC receives nearly half of the county's trauma patients; provides over half of the uninsured healthcare for the county and provides a variety of specialty care with over seventy clinics to treat inpatients and out-patients. As a teaching facility, RCRMC offers a full range of medical education, thereby producing trained physicians, nurses and allied health professionals.

RCRMC's commitment to providing high quality healthcare has remained constant. Countless people have turned to RCRMC in times of medical need. In providing these vital services, RCRMC has continued to set the standard for compassionate, professional health care.

For additional information on how to obtain any of the listed services or for any other questions, please feel free to contact ChaiTae Hasty-Rodriguez, PIO @ (951) 486-4450.



News from the

American College of Surgeons

"Founded in 1913 to improve the quality of care for the surgical patient"

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