FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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THE QUEEN’S MEDICAL CENTER RE-VERIFIED AS LEVEL II
TRAUMA CENTER BY THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF
SURGEONS THROUGH 2017

HONOLULU -- The Queen’s Medical Center has been re-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.

The Committee on Trauma’s certificate of verification extends through May 14, 2017.

“It is an honor to serve as Hawaii’s only American College of Surgeon’s verified trauma center,” said Art Ushijima, President of The Queen’s Medical Center. “In Fiscal Year 2015, The Queen’s Medical Center at Punchbowl experienced 2,669 trauma cases. Going forward, it is our goal to continue to serve our State by providing quality health care to all of the people of Hawaii when they need it the most.”

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 pre hospital phase through the rehabilitation process.

Verified trauma centers must meet the essential criteria and standards 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 Hawaii’s Department of Health. The Queen’s Medical Center is a verified and designated trauma center.

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There are five separate categories of verification in the COT’s program. Each category has specific criteria and standards that must be met by a facility seeking that level of verification. Each hospital has an on-site review by a team of experienced site reviewers, who use the current accreditation criteria and standards in the Resources for the Optimal Care of the Injured Patient manual 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.

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The Queen’s Medical Center (Queen’s), a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation established in 1859 by Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV, is an acute care medical facility accredited by The Joint Commission. The facility is licensed for 505 acute beds and 28 sub-acute beds and serves as the major tertiary and quaternary referral center for cancer, cardiovascular disease, neuroscience, orthopaedics, surgery, emergency medicine and behavioral health medicine. It is the state’s designated trauma center verified as Level II by the American College of Surgeons. It has the only organ transplantation program in Hawaii. Queen’s is a major teaching hospital, serving as a clinical training site for the residency programs sponsored by the John A. Burns School of Medicine at the University of Hawaii. Queen’s is the only hospital in Hawaii to achieve Magnet® status – the highest institutional honor for hospital excellence – from the American Nurses Credentialing Center.