

NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

HIGHLANDHOSPITAL

A member of Alameda Health System

Contact:

Jerri Applegate Randrup
jrandrup@alamedahealthsystem.org
510.437.8479

**Highland Hospital Cardiac Catheterization Lab
Reaches Extraordinary Milestone with 100 Percent
Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialists (RCIS)**
Patient Care, Job Satisfaction Soars as Lab Staff Earns Coveted Credential

OAKLAND, CA (July 1, 2013) – Highland Hospital today announced 100 percent of its Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory Technicians have earned the elite designation of Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist (RCIS) from Cardiovascular Credentialing International (CCI), a non-profit authority that has administered the credentialing examination to cardiovascular professionals since 1968.

“This is an incredibly difficult registry exam that requires hours of study. While many of the best hospitals in the country are working toward this credential, we are ahead of the game with 100 percent of our technologists, technicians, and registered nurses credentialed with their RCIS,” Heather Duke, Director of Cardiovascular Services and Radiology said. **“This represents the highest standard in invasive cardiovascular care that we can achieve as a unit and a hospital, and it demonstrates our commitment to each other, to our hospital, and to the quality and integrity of care provided to our patients.”**

RCIS certification is increasingly becoming a national standard, with some states such as Colorado requiring all medical professionals to be credentialed before working in a cardiac catheterization laboratory. California does not have this legal requirement, which places Highland Hospital among the best hospitals and health systems around the state and country in terms of quality of cardiac care.

For more information about the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory or Highland Hospital in general, please visit www.highlandhospitalahs.org.

###

About Alameda Health System (AHS)

Alameda Health System (AHS), a major public health care provider headquartered in Oakland, California, is recognized as a world-class patient and family centered system of care. Its mission – caring, healing, teaching and serving all – sums up the AHS core objectives to promote wellness and eliminate disparities within the diverse communities it serves in Alameda County. As a regional and national leader in health care safety and excellence, AHS aims to optimize the health of all Alameda County residents by multiplying access points to its best-in-class care.

AHS creates positive patient experiences. Service and community engagement are a priority, and the system offers programs that deliver value to individuals across all patient populations regardless of their social or economic status. Quality, financial strength and development of the workforce are also system hallmarks that ensure continual improvement to every aspect of our reach in the community.

A major economic force in Alameda County, AHS employs 3,200 people, including over 500 physicians at six facilities. These include Highland Hospital, a major regional trauma center and teaching hospital, John George Psychiatric Hospital, an acute and emergency care facility in San Leandro, California; Fairmont Hospital, an acute rehabilitation hospital and skilled nursing facility, also in San Leandro; and four ambulatory wellness centers in Oakland, Newark and Hayward, California.