



**Merrimack
Valley
Hospital**

A New Day. A New Vision for the Valley.

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Merrimack Valley Hospital Honored by Masspro for its Exemplary Commitment to Quality Improvement

Haverhill, MA - Sept. 15, 2008- Merrimack Valley Hospital was recently honored by Masspro, the federally designated healthcare quality improvement organization for Massachusetts. The award is for Merrimack Valley Hospital's exemplary commitment to improving the quality of care for patients of the Commonwealth in the areas of Acute Myocardial Infarction, Heart Failure, Pneumonia, and Surgical Care.

"This improvement in quality of care and outcomes is due to the dedication of our physicians and staff. This award is a tribute to them," said Merrimack Valley Hospital CEO Michael Collins. "

Merrimack Valley Hospital was one of eighteen hospitals throughout Massachusetts to receive the award. The only other hospital in the immediate area to receive it was Saints Memorial Medical Center in Lowell.

Merrimack Valley Hospital was presented this award because it has served as an active participant in an Identified Participant Group (IPG). The goal was to achieve exemplary benchmark performance in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services 8th Statement of Work. Merrimack Valley Hospital's contributions helped develop and produce efficient improvements in Patient Safety which resulted in the IPG finishing in the top five in the nation.

About Merrimack Valley Hospital:

Merrimack Valley Hospital maintains 108 acute care bed and 17 adult behavioral medicine beds; all are private rooms. The hospital's clinical strengths include a 24-hour emergency department; orthopedic, endoscopic and general surgery; adult behavioral medicine care with a focus on geriatric issues. MVH also provides a wide range of outpatient services, such as surgical day care; x-rays; MRI exams; PET-Scans; 64-Slice CT Scans; digital mammography; bone density testing; dysphasia testing; nuclear medicine; and physical therapy.

The hospital's awards for excellence include the Excellence Through Insight Award, 2008 (HealthStream Research); Best in Value Hospitals, 2008 (Data Advantage); #1 Nursing Team in New England Award, 2003 (Advance for Nursing Magazine); National Quality Leader Award for Pneumonia Care, 2006 (CareScience Select Practice); High Reliability Cardiac Care Award, 2006 (MassPRO); Top 100 Best Acute Care Hospital Award, 2004 (Total Benchmark Solutions); and Top Ranked Community Value Provider Award, 2007 (Cleverley & Associates). An affiliate of Essent Healthcare, Inc., the hospital serves Merrimack Valley and southern New Hampshire. More information can be found at www.merrimackvalleyhospital.com.

About Masspro:

Masspro (www.masspro.org) develops and disseminates innovative solutions that transform patient care by improving its safety, effectiveness and efficiency. We are unique among organizations in our ability to work across the full continuum of patients, healthcare providers, purchasers and payers and are committed to transforming the whole care delivery system, not just individual components. We also focus and leverage the power of information technology to provide improvement solutions and deliver maximum impact.