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Merrimack Valley Hospital Celebrates New Palliative Care Program

Sept. 28, 2009- Merrimack Valley Hospital will kick-off its new Palliative Care Program on Thursday, Oct. 1.

This event will introduce this new program, which focuses on the relief of pain, stress and other debilitating symptoms of serious illness. The goal is to relieve suffering and provide the best possible quality of life for patients and their families.

Attendees will learn about these services and meet the Palliative Care Team. There will be raffles, informational brochures and experts to answer questions. Refreshments will be served.

This free event is open to the public and will be held in the hospital's first-floor auditorium from 4 to 6 pm. Merrimack Valley Hospital is located at 140 Lincoln Ave in Haverhill, MA. For more information or to register please call Mary O'Neil at (978) 420-1157.

About Merrimack Valley Hospital:

Merrimack Valley Hospital maintains 107 acute care beds and 17 adult behavioral medicine beds; all are private rooms. The hospital's clinical strengths include a 24-hour emergency department; orthopedic, endoscopic, general, vascular, thoracic, GYN, pediatric and urologic surgery; wound care with hyperbaric therapy; adult behavioral medicine care with a focus on geriatric issues; a comprehensive Pain Management Center; a Sleep Study Lab; gastroenterology; otolaryngology and hospitalist services. MVH also provides a wide range of outpatient services, such as bone density testing; dysphasia testing; echocardiograms; electroencephalograms (EEG); electromyography (EMG); full-field digital mammography; magnetic resonance imaging (MRI); positron emission tomography (PET-Scan); pulmonary function testing (PFT); nuclear medicine; surgical day care; ultrasound (general & obstetrical), and physical therapy and x-rays, and 64-Slice CT scans.

The hospital's awards for excellence include the Excellence Through Insight Award, 2008 (HealthStream Research); Best in Value Hospitals, 2008 (Data Advantage); Top Ranked Community Value Provider Award, 2007 (Cleverley & Associates); National Quality Leader Award for Pneumonia Care, 2006 (CareScience Select Practice); High Reliability Cardiac Care Award, 2006 (MassPRO); and An affiliate of Essent

*Healthcare, Inc., the hospital serves Merrimack Valley and southern New Hampshire.
More information can be found at www.merrimackvalleyhospital.com. Merrimack Valley
Hospital is a licensed and certified mammography facility.*