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For Immediate Release

ELLIOT HOSPITAL IS FIRST IN SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE TO RECEIVE ACCREDITATION AS A BARIATRIC CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FROM THE ACS BARIATRIC SURGERY CENTER NETWORK

MANCHESTER, NH—Elliot Hospital has been accredited as a Level 2 facility by the Bariatric Surgery Center Network (BSCN) Accreditation Program of the American College of Surgeons (ACS). This designation means that Elliot Hospital has met the essential criteria that ensures it is fully capable of supporting a bariatric surgery care program and that its institutional performance meets the requirements outlined by the ACS BSCN Accreditation Program. The Bariatric Program has been a successful collaboration between Elliot Hospital and Dartmouth-Hitchcock Manchester under the direction of David Gould, M.D. Collaborating since 2003, the two healthcare organizations instituted the first Bariatric Surgery Program for patients in Central and Southern New Hampshire. Bariatric surgery, also called weight loss surgery, is a surgical management tool for people who are morbidly obese and cannot lose weight by other traditional methods or who suffer from severe obesity related health problems.

“We proudly collaborate to offer this treatment option. Dr. Gould and the interdisciplinary bariatric team at Elliot pursued this accreditation because they are committed to supporting people with issues of obesity through state-of-the-art surgical and preventative healthcare services. This designation recognizes the quality of this program and the surgical care patients’ receive,” explained Rick Phelps, MD, Executive Vice President of Clinical Operations at Elliot. “These surgeries can provide obese patients with the weight loss they need to control other medical problems such as diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease, among other health risks. Along with a healthy diet and regular daily exercise, weight-loss surgery can provide effective, lasting relief from severe obesity,” said Dr. Phelps.

This accreditation recognizes Elliot Hospital for providing optimal surgical care for patients who undergo this surgical procedure. Obtaining accreditation consisted of an on-site verification by experienced bariatric surgeons, who reviewed the center’s structure, process, and quality of data using standards established by the ACS BSCN. Because high-quality surgical care requires documentation using reliable measurements of outcomes, accredited bariatric surgery centers are required to report their bariatric surgery outcomes data either to the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP) or the College’s BSCN Database using a web-based data entry system.

For more information call Elliot Hospital at 669-5300 or Elliot On-Call at 663-4567 or visit www.dartmouth-hitchcock.org/manchester.

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