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**KAPI'OLANI MEDICAL CENTER FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN RECEIVES NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FROM COMMISSION ON CANCER OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS**

**HONOLULU (April 4, 2011)**—The Commission on Cancer (CoC) of the American College of Surgeons has granted its Outstanding Achievement Award to Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children as a result of surveys performed during 2010. Kapi'olani is one of a select group of 90 currently accredited and newly accredited cancer programs across the United States.

Martha Smith, COO of Kapi'olani Medical Center, said, "We are thrilled to receive this prestigious award, especially since 2010 was the first year Kapi'olani had applied for accreditation. It's a real testament to the outstanding doctors and staff who run our cancer care program."

Established in 2004, the CoC Outstanding Achievement Award (OAA) is designed to recognize cancer programs that strive for excellence in providing quality care to cancer patients. The award is granted to facilities that demonstrate a Commendation level of compliance with seven standards that represent six areas of cancer program activity: cancer committee leadership, cancer data management, clinical management, research, community outreach, and quality improvement.

The level of compliance with the seven standards is determined during an on-site evaluation by a physician surveyor. In addition, facilities must receive a compliance rating for the remaining 29 cancer program standards. Only 90 programs, including Kapi'olani, received the OAA as a result of surveys performed in 2010. This number represents approximately 17 percent of programs surveyed during this period. A majority of recipients are community-based facilities; however, teaching hospitals, NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers, Pediatric, and Network Cancer Programs also received the award.

Established in 1922 by the American College of Surgeons, the Commission on Cancer is a consortium of professional organizations dedicated to improving survival and quality of life for cancer patients through standard-setting, prevention, research, education, and the monitoring of comprehensive quality care. Its membership includes Fellows of the American College of Surgeons and representatives of 47 national organizations that reflect the full spectrum of cancer care.

The CoC's core functions include setting standards for quality, multidisciplinary cancer patient care; surveying facilities to evaluate compliance with the 36 CoC standards; collecting standardized, high-quality data from accredited facilities; and using the data to develop effective educational interventions to improve cancer care outcomes at the national, state, and local levels. There are currently more than 1,500 CoC-accredited cancer programs representing 25 percent of all hospitals in the U.S. and Puerto Rico. These CoC-accredited facilities diagnose and/or treat 71 percent of all newly diagnosed cancer patients each year. Receiving care at a CoC-accredited cancer program ensures that a patient will have access to the full quality spectrum of comprehensive cancer care close to home.

In addition, cancer patients' data are reported by each CoC-accredited cancer program to the CoC's National Cancer Data Base (NCDB), a joint program with the American Cancer Society (ACS). These data account for approximately two-thirds of all newly diagnosed cancer cases in the U.S. each year, and are used regularly to monitor the quality of patient care delivered in CoC-accredited cancer programs and to improve cancer care outcomes at the national and local level.

The CoC provides the public with information on the resources, services, and cancer treatment experience for each CoC-accredited cancer program. This information is shared with the public on the Cancer Programs page of the American College of Surgeons website at <http://www.facs.org/cancer/index.html> and through the American Cancer Society National Cancer Information Center at 1-800-ACS-2345. For information about the Commission on Cancer, visit [www.facs.org/cancer/index.html](http://www.facs.org/cancer/index.html).

#### About Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children

Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children is well recognized as Hawai'i's leader in the care of women, infants and children. With 207 beds and 90 bassinets, the nonprofit hospital is Hawai'i's only maternity, newborn and pediatric specialty hospital. It is also a tertiary care, medical teaching and research facility. Specialty services for patients throughout Hawai'i and the Pacific Region include intensive care for infants and children, 24-hour emergency pediatric care, air transport, maternal fetal medicine, and high-risk perinatal care. More than 1,300 employees and 612 physicians provide specialty care at Kapi'olani Medical Center. The hospital is home to Kapi'olani Women's Center, Kapi'olani Breast Center and Kapi'olani Women's Cancer Center - the state's only dedicated breast health and gynecological cancer centers. Kapi'olani offers numerous community programs and services, such as the Kapi'olani Child Protection Center and Sex Abuse Treatment Center. Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children is an affiliate of Hawai'i Pacific Health, the state's largest health care provider. Learn more at: [www.kapiolani.org](http://www.kapiolani.org).

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