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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**HARRISBURG MEDICAL CENTER RECEIVES RECOGNITION AS NATION'S TOP 25 MOST WIRED RURAL HOSPITAL TWO YEARS IN A ROW!**

Harrisburg Medical Center's use of technology to improve patient care has landed it on the American Hospital Association's (AHA) list of the Nation's Top 25 'Most Wired' Small and Rural Hospitals for the second year in a row.

Most Wired hospitals lead the way in technology integration at all levels including infrastructure, business and administration applications, clinical quality and safety, and care continuum. The data that is used to identify those hospitals that are 'Most Wired' comes from Hospital & Health Networks magazine's annual survey of hospitals from around the country.

This type of recognition is quite an honor as it is not a simple task. Harrisburg Medical Center has taken great strides to establish a solid foundation for creating a robust clinical information system aimed at improving patient care. This would include the adoption of technologies to improve patient documentation, advanced clinical decision support and evidence-based protocols, the reduction in the likelihood of medication errors, as well as the ability to rapidly restore access to data in the case of a disaster or outage.

"Healthcare and technology changes daily. In order for us to serve our community and advance healthcare for our patients, we have dedicated resources that will take us well into the future" Rodney Smith, President/CEO of Harrisburg Medical Center.

The Information Technology Department of Harrisburg Medical Center plays a major role in meeting the requirements to receive such an honorable recognition. HMC's Information Technology department is the infrastructure that has enabled the organization's clinical and business departments to translate data into information and utilize that information as knowledge for improvement in the delivery of safe, high-quality patient care.

“The IT department has to balance between providing new technology to the providers and hospital staff and protecting patient health information. This task is both challenging and rewarding. We would not have been able to achieve our current level of technology without every department's cooperation” Richard Pyle, CIO of Harrisburg Medical Center.

Health Care's Most Wired Survey, conducted between Jan. 15 and March 15, asked hospitals and health systems nationwide to answer questions regarding their IT initiatives. Respondents completed 680 surveys, representing 1,900 hospitals, or more than 30 percent of all U.S. hospitals.