

'Take GMH to the next level'

The hospital is accredited for three years. The Joint Commission, however, reserves the right to either shorten or lengthen the duration of the accreditation cycle. This full accreditation award excludes GMHA's Skilled Nursing Unit in Barrigada, which must undergo a separate review process for long-term care standards.

"Joint Commission accreditation signifies evidence-based progress at GMH that the people of Guam can take pride and comfort in knowing GMH can accomplish when we all pull together. With Joint Commission accreditation, Guam is making a significant investment in quality healthcare on a day-to-day basis from the top down. Joint Commission accreditation provides us a framework to take GMH to the next level and helps create a culture of excellence for our patients," said Joseph P. Verga, GMH Administrator/CEO.

GMH thanks patients and supporters

GMHA extends its appreciation to all patients and their families; volunteers and vendors; staff and management; and island leaders who contributed to the inspiration, resources, dedicated work and the collective will to make this achievement possible.

Accreditation Process

The following is a brief explanation of the accreditation process from The Joint Commission:

Joint Commission standards address the hospital's performance in specific areas, and specify requirements to ensure that patient care is provided in a safe manner and in a secure environment. The Joint Commission develops its standards in consultation with health care experts, providers and researchers, as well as measurement experts, purchasers and consumers. The standards-based performance areas for hospitals are:

<i>Environment of Care</i>	<i>Emergency Management</i>
<i>Human Resources</i>	<i>Infection Prevention and Control</i>
<i>Information Management</i>	<i>Leadership</i>
<i>Life Safety</i>	<i>Medication Management</i>
<i>Medical Staff</i>	<i>National Patient Safety Goals</i>
<i>Nursing</i>	<i>Performance Improvement</i>
<i>Transplant Safety</i>	<i>Waived Testing</i>
<i>Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services</i>	
<i>Record of Care, Treatment, and Services</i>	
<i>Rights and Responsibilities of the Individual</i>	

To earn and maintain accreditation, a hospital undergoes an on-site survey by a Joint Commission survey team. The survey team includes health care