EvergreenHealth Monroe Earns Technology Transformation Honors

Monroe, Wash. - EvergreenHealth Monroe recently received recognition from the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) for reaching stage 6 on the HIMSS Electronic Medical Record Adoption Model (EMRAM). EvergreenHealth Monroe joins EvergreenHealth Medical Center in Kirkland in reaching this distinction level. The two are among just 23 health care facilities out of the nearly 120 hospitals across Washington state to reach this achievement. This designation also places the Monroe-based hospital among the top 29 percent of hospitals within the HIMSS Analytics system across the country.

EvergreenHealth Monroe received the recognition for nearing full automation of medical record access across inpatient care settings and enabling medical staff to effectively utilize information technology to improve patient safety. Hospitals achieving this honor hold distinctive advantages in patient safety, clinician support, and clinician recruitment.

"The use of technology systems such as the HIMSS model is another example of the many enhancements we've made over the past several years to create better efficiencies as a hospital," said Eric Jensen, chief administrative officer, EvergreenHealth Monroe. "This milestone demonstrates the positive impact of technology initiatives on patient safety and reflects our dedication to providing east Snohomish County residents with access to the highest quality health care, service and experience."

By achieving the HIMSS designation EvergreenHealth Monroe is able to improve its ability to share data with key stakeholders, such as physicians, consumers, employers, the government and payers that support electronic health record environments and business-critical health information exchanges.

"Across our health system, we continually strive to enhance the services we provide to patients and the community. This honor is one among many proof points of our providers and staff members' dedication to excellence in everything we do, whether it's direct patient care or the technology that supports that care," said EvergreenHealth CEO Bob Malte. "Leveraging health care technology like the Electronic Medical Record Adoption Model empowers our health system to operate at optimum levels and deliver the greatest value to our patients."

EvergreenHealth Monroe has made significant advancement in its IT capabilities to successfully address many of the current industry transformations, such as meaningful use criteria in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, claims attachments for the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, pay for performance and government quality reporting programs.

"HIMSS Analytics congratulates EvergreenHealth Monroe for making significant progress towards achieving advanced health IT adoption," said John H. Daniels, CNM, FACHE, FHIMSS,

CPHIMS, Global Vice President, HIMSS Analytics. "Stage 6 represents a level of sophistication that can lead to innovative health care transformation."

HIMSS Analytics developed the EMR Adoption Model in 2005 as a methodology for evaluating the progress and impact of electronic medical record systems for hospitals in the HIMSS Analytics® LOGIC™. Tracking their progress in completing eight stages (0-7), hospitals can review the implementation and utilization of information technology applications with the intent of reaching Stage 7, which represents an advanced electronic patient record environment.

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