



VENTURA COUNTY
HEALTH CARE AGENCY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Ventura County Medical Center's Trauma Center Receives Verification from the
Committee on Trauma of the American College of Surgeons**

(VENTURA, Calif.) – The trauma center at Ventura County Medical Center (VCMC) has been verified as a Level II Trauma Center, for the second time, by the Verification Review Committee (VRC), an ad hoc committee of the Committee on Trauma (COT) of the American College of Surgeons (ACS). This achievement recognizes the trauma center's continued dedication to providing optimal care for injured patients.

Established by the American College of Surgeons in 1987, the COT's Consultation/Verification Program for Hospitals promotes the development of trauma centers in which participants provide not only the hospital resources necessary for trauma care, but also the entire spectrum of care to address the needs of all injured patients. This spectrum encompasses the pre-hospital phase through the rehabilitation process.

Thomas Duncan, DO, FACS, and co-trauma director at VCMC, is proud of the achievement. "This shows great solidarity and unification of our entire hospital body by satisfying strict criteria set by the American College of Surgeons. In achieving our second verification, it indicates that VCMC maintains a high level of care for Ventura County's trauma victims (amongst other non- traumatized patients), and promotes extensive prevention efforts."

Verified trauma centers must meet the essential criteria that ensure trauma care capability and institutional performance, as outlined by the American College of Surgeons' Committee on Trauma in its current Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient manual.

The ACS Committee on Trauma's verification program does not designate trauma centers. Rather, the program provides confirmation that a trauma center has demonstrated its commitment to providing the highest quality trauma care for all injured patients. The actual establishment and the designation of trauma centers is the function of local, regional, or state health care systems agencies, such as the local emergency medical services (EMS) authority.



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“This verification of our trauma center speaks volumes about our commitment to caring for the most critically injured patients,” says Cyndie Cole, Ventura County Medical Center Administrator. “Our dedicated team of trauma surgeons, physicians and staff continue to set the bar high for the care given to those seen in our trauma center.”

The American College of Surgeons is a scientific and educational association of surgeons, founded in 1913, to raise the standards of surgical education and practice and to improve the care of the surgical patient.

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