



Submitted Photo

Guthrie Trauma Surgeons, from left: Dr. Niral Shah, Dr. Steven Casos, Dr. Anne Lihau-N'kanza, Dr. Jason Granet and Dr. Robert Behm.

RPH gets 3-year trauma accreditation

Guthrie Robert Packer Hospital announces that its Trauma Center has received full three-year accreditation from the Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation (PTSF). Guthrie is the region's only Adult Level II Trauma Center.

Guthrie Robert Packer Hospital President Marie Droege said, "Guthrie is pleased to receive a full three-year accreditation, the highest award possible, which recognizes our commitment to providing first-class trauma care. At Guthrie, the patient comes first. We feel that it is essential for the region to have a state-of-the-art, advanced trauma service to ensure that the community has the knowledge, care and expertise at hand locally to care for individuals with complex medical and surgical needs."

P. Jason Granet, MD, Guthrie Robert Packer Hospital trauma medical director, said, "We are very proud of the Guthrie Trauma team for achieving this full three year accreditation. Trauma is truly a team effort, and requires a multidisciplinary team to collaborate and coordinate care from patient admission through to discharge. This accreditation would not have been possible without the dedicated efforts of all of our staff. For our staff, this accreditation is a welcome recognition of the day-to-day efforts to deliver excellent and effective trauma services, and fulfil our mission of a service which is 'rapid, ready, and reliable for every patient, every time.'"

In its full accreditation, Guthrie was commended for its strengths in effective and collaborative trauma team communication, exceptional clinical care provided by the Air-Medical Service, and in its strong commitment to excellence.

Guthrie Robert Packer Hospital Trauma Center provides state-of-the art trauma care, surgical critical care and emergency general surgical services. Its experienced surgeons are fellowship trained and board certified in general surgery and surgical critical care. They are on duty around the clock to perform procedures, oversee the surgical intensive care unit, and treat time sensitive conditions. The designation as an Adult Level II Trauma Center, was effective Oct. 1.

Trauma centers are hospitals that specialize in caring for seriously injured patients and must demonstrate the capacity and ability to simultaneously respond to the needs of all types of trauma patients. Accredited trauma centers provide patients immediate access to specialized personnel, equipment and resources 24 hours a day, seven days a week with the goal of quickly identifying injuries and beginning life-saving interventions.

In Pennsylvania, the standards for trauma center accreditation that must be met by hospitals are some of the most rigorous in the nation, most exceeding the national standards set forth by the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma. Hospitals must undergo an on-site review by a team of trauma-expert surveyors a minimum of every three years, where trauma center processes and clinical care are reviewed. Using the findings from the surveyors, the PTSF Board of Directors determine whether the applicant hospital has met the requirements to be a trauma center and issues the certificate of accreditation for one, two or three years. Guthrie Robert Packer Hospital's survey took place in the spring.

Submitted by Guthrie