LEE HEALTH PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT:

Pat Dolce, Public Affairs Specialist
(O) 239-343-8370 - (C) 239-989 2758

Department Mobile/After Hours:
239-789-5786

Gulf Coast Medical Center Receives Patient Safety Excellence Award
Healthgrades Award Recognizes Top Hospitals for Prevention of Adverse Safety Incidents

(Fort Myers, Fla. Jun318, 2019) ---' Lee Health's Gulf Coast Medical Center was named one of the recipients of the 2019 Patient Safety Excellence Award by Healthgrades, a leading online resource for information about physicians and hospitals. This marks the second consecutive year the hospital has received this honor. This award recognizes the top 10 percent of hospitals in the country who have the lowest occurance of preventable patient safety events.

"We are honored that Healthgrades named Gulf Coast Medical Center among the nation's best for patient safety. This recognition is a testament to the doctors, nurses and hospital staff who stay alert in order to prevent potential safety risks before they happen. They deserve high praise for everything they do to keep patients safe," said Scott Kashman, Lee Health's chief officer, hospital operations.

The list is based entirely on objective outcomes for 14 safety indicators outlined by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) which include mortality, bloodstream infections, and deep blood clots among others. In addition to the safety indicators, all hospitals on the list have zero incidents of retained foreign objects. Gulf Coast Medical Center is one of two local hospitals and only 40 in the state of Florida to receive this award.

Healthgrades evaluates hospital performance for more than 4,500 hospitals across the nation annually based on Medicare inpatient data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Medicare Provider Analysis and Review (MedPAR) database. No hospital can opt-in or opt-out, nor can they pay to be evaluated. To learn more about how Healthgrades determines Patient Safety Excellence award recipients, please visit:
https://www.healthgrades.com/quality/patient-safety-excellence-award-2019-recipients

The honor builds on Lee Health's hospitals' recent recognitions for quality and safety. Last month, all four acute care Lee Health hospitals earned "A" grades in the Leapfrog Group's bi-annual hospital safety grades. The group also named Golisano Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida a "top hospital" for the third straight year.

About Lee Health

Since the opening of the first hospital in 1916, Lee Health has been a health care leader in Southwest Florida, constantly evolving to meet the needs of the community. A non-profit, integrated health care services organization, Lee Health is committed to the well-being of every individual served, focused on healthy living and maintaining good health. Staffed by caring people, inspiring health, services are conveniently located throughout the community in four acute care hospitals, two specialty hospitals, outpatient centers, walk-in medical centers, primary care and specialty physician practices and other services across the continuum of care. Formerly known as Lee Memorial Health System, the organization began its second century of service with a new name in 2016. Learn more at www.LeeHealth.org.