



**Shriners Hospitals**  
for Children®

**Spokane**

Pediatric Specialty Care

Orthopaedics

*Shriners Hospitals for Children® – Spokane receives the Gold Seal of Approval™*

**Public Relations**

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**SPOKANE, WASHINGTON (July 14, 2010), SHRINERS HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN® – SPOKANE AWARDED ACCREDITATION FROM THE JOINT COMMISSION**

By demonstrating compliance with The Joint Commission's national standards for health care quality and safety, Shriners Hospitals for Children® – Spokane, has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval™ for Laboratory and Point-of-Care Testing.

"We continually strive to improve the quality of our services, and meeting The Joint Commission's rigorous national standards is an important recognition of our efforts," says Lynda Vilanova, Director of Patient Care Services. The Joint Commission evaluated the laboratory's performance in complying with nearly 300 standards related to quality control, safety, infection control, leadership, management of human resources, management of information, ongoing performance improvement activities and other issues.

Founded in 1951, The Joint Commission has been acknowledged as the leader in developing the highest standards for quality and safety in the delivery of health care, and evaluating organization performance based on these standards.

"The accreditation process helps promote continuous, systematic and organization-wide improvement in health care organizations," says Gina Zimmermann, M.S., senior executive director, The Joint Commission. "Achieving accreditation demonstrates Shriners Hospitals for Children® – Spokane's commitment to providing high quality and safe services."

Vilanova says efforts to improve don't stop when The Joint Commission survey is over. "We are continually looking for ways to improve our standards of care; achieving excellence is a continuous process."

To learn more about Shriners Hospitals for Children® visit our website [www.shrinershospitals.org](http://www.shrinershospitals.org).

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**About Shriners Hospitals for Children®**

Shriners Hospitals for Children® ([www.shrinershospitals.org](http://www.shrinershospitals.org)) is a pediatric healthcare system of 22 hospitals dedicated to providing specialty care, innovative research and outstanding teaching programs. Children up to age 18 with orthopaedic conditions, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate are eligible for care and receive all services in a family-centered environment, without financial obligation to patients or their families.