

For Immediate Release

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******* Press Release *******

BREAST HEALTH CENTER AT JACOBI MEDICAL CENTER RECEIVES FULL ACCREDITATION

BRONX, NY, July 6, 2011 - Jacobi Medical Center has been granted a three-year/full accreditation designation by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC), a program administered by the American College of Surgeons. Accreditation by the NAPBC is only given to those centers that have voluntarily committed to provide the highest level of quality breast care and that undergo a rigorous evaluation process and review of their performance.

During the survey process, the center must demonstrate compliance with standards established by the NAPBC for treating women who are diagnosed with the full spectrum of breast disease. The standards include proficiency in the areas of center leadership, clinical management, research, community outreach, professional education, and quality improvement. A breast center that achieves NAPBC accreditation has demonstrated a firm commitment to offer its patients every significant advantage in their battle against breast disease.

“The ultimate goal of Jacobi’s Breast Health Center is to deliver quality breast care through prevention, early detection and treatment for the diagnosis of breast disease,” said Dr. Maria Castaldi, Director of The Breast Health Center at Jacobi Medical Center. “Our multidisciplinary approach allows departments such as oncology, radiology, and surgery to work together so that we offer our patients care in a safe, efficient and comfortable environment. We are proud that the NAPBC has recognized our pursuit of excellence and commitment to providing quality care to our breast cancer patients. We are proud to have received full accreditation. A patient who receives care at an accredited center such as ours can be assured that she has access to the highest level of breast care.”

Each year, thousands of patients are diagnosed with invasive breast cancer in the United States. In addition, hundreds of thousands of women will deal with benign breast disease and will require medical evaluation for treatment options.

Receiving care at Jacobi Medical Center, a NAPBC-accredited center, ensures that a patient will have access to comprehensive breast care, including a full range of state-of-the-art services; a multidisciplinary team approach to coordinate the best treatment options; information about ongoing clinical trials and new treatment options; and, most importantly, quality breast care close to home.

The Breast Health Center at Jacobi Medical Center provides comprehensive care for the prevention, care, and management of breast disease. It is staffed by a team of breast and plastic surgeons, medical and radiation oncologists, and breast imagers all with expertise in the care of breast disease. It offers full treatment services to include stereotactic, MRI, and ultrasound-guided core needle biopsy, breast conservative surgery or total breast removal with immediate breast reconstruction and sentinel lymph node biopsy.

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Patient support through patient navigators and specialized nursing is provided as well as psychosocial support, survivorship programs, and physical and occupational therapy. Genetic risk assessment, counseling and testing is also offered. For more information about Jacobi's Breast Health Center, please call (718) 918-4310.

About Jacobi Medical Center

Jacobi Medical Center is part of HHC's North Bronx Healthcare Network, which includes North Central Bronx Hospital. A 457-bed teaching hospital affiliated with the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Jacobi offers numerous centers of excellence including its renowned trauma center, multi-person hyperbaric unit, burn center, surgical intensive care unit, stroke center and regional perinatal center. Jacobi's new Ambulatory Care Pavilion is a stunning complement to its recently constructed inpatient facility and allows staff to provide outpatients with high-quality care in a modern, state-of-the-art environment.

About The National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers

The NAPBC is a consortium of professional organizations dedicated to the improvement of the quality of care and monitoring of outcomes of patients with diseases of the breast. This mission is pursued through standard-setting, scientific validation, and patient and professional education. Its board membership includes professionals from 15 national organizations that reflect the full spectrum of breast care. For more information visit, www.accreditedbreastcenters.org.

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