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## **Cannon Hospital Advances Healthcare with Certifications and Technology**

**Pickens, SC** - Cannon Memorial Hospital, a 55-bed acute care facility in Pickens, is advancing healthcare with recent technology upgrades and certifications, all of which mean higher quality care for patients.

Most recently Cannon received a 3-year reaccreditation from Det Norske Veritas Healthcare, Inc. (DNV). DNV is the first and only CMS approved accreditation program that integrates ISO 9001 quality methods with Medicare Conditions of Participation. As part of the accreditation process, Cannon has worked for the past 3 years to become ISO compliant. The results are pending for this certification, however once received, Cannon Memorial Hospital will be the first hospital in the state to be ISO accredited - hospital wide. The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) accreditation is a rigorous process in which a hospital improves and monitors the delivery of patient care, measures quality, and places the highest priority on eliminating errors. ISO standards are used internationally in different fields including agriculture, construction, manufacturing, aerospace, medical devices and healthcare and are considered the “gold standard” for all industries. “Becoming ISO certified hospital wide demonstrates to our customers- our patients- that Cannon Hospital is focused on a commitment to quality within all levels of our organization,” said Norman Rentz, CEO of Cannon Hospital. “It also indicates the level of care and standardized treatment patients can expect when services are provided to them at our hospital or physician practices.”

Another testament to improved patient care is Cannon’s recent accreditation by the American College of Radiology in Computer Tomography (CT). CT Scanning- sometimes called CAT scanning- is a noninvasive medical test that helps physicians diagnose and tailor treatments for various medical conditions. This recent validation makes Cannon Hospital one of the only hospitals in the Upstate to have ACR accreditation for CT. The ACR gold seal of accreditation represents the highest level of image quality and patient safety. Cannon is also ACR accredited in Mammography and Nuclear Medicine.

Cannon is also on the verge of converting its IT infrastructure to McKesson’s Paragon® system, which will create electronic health records and physician order entry. This new system captures health information electronically as patients receive care and provides caregivers with up-to-date information when and where they need it – from the emergency department to the patient bedside, improving patient care and safety.

### ***About Cannon Memorial Hospital:***

*Established in 1947, Cannon Memorial Hospital ([www.cannonhospital.org](http://www.cannonhospital.org)) is a 55-bed acute care facility in the foothills of Pickens, S.C. The hospital offers a full-range of state-of-the-art medical technology, equipment and services, along with three family physician practices, plus an orthopedic and a general surgery practice. More than 60 physicians have privileges at Cannon and nearly 300 people are employed by the organization.*