

SWMC Receives ACR Accreditation

LIBERAL, KS - Southwest Medical Center in Liberal has been awarded a three year term of accreditation for their computed tomography services for both adult and pediatric patients as the result of a recent survey by the American College of Radiology (ACR).

“I think this accreditation shows we are committed to our community and to the care we provide our patients,” said SWMC Radiology Director Kelly Denton. “We have worked extremely hard throughout this process and we are very proud to have achieved this goal.”

The ACR, headquartered in Reston, VA, awards accreditation to facilities for the achievement of high practice standards after a peer-review evaluation of the practice. Evaluations are conducted by board-certified physicians and medical physicists who are experts in the field. They assess the qualifications of the personnel and the adequacy of facility equipment. The surveyors report their findings to the ACR’s Committee on Accreditation, which subsequently provides the practice with a comprehensive report.

“This was a very difficult and tough process because of strict government rules and regulation,” said Dr. Assad Zainali, Radiologist. “With the hard work of our staff, Kelly Denton and Roy Stapleton, we were able to accomplish this task. We are very proud of it and we are dedicated to quality care and improvement of the healthcare we are providing. We are aware of the hazard of over exposure to radiation which has recently been in the national headlines, and through this process we have cut our exposures on most exams almost in half. We have a physicist that we work with on a regular basis and he is onsite every three months to evaluate our department and we have met all the American College of Radiology's standards for their image gently campaign.”

Stapleton, Radiology Tech ARRT, agreed that the process to achieve the ACR accreditation was difficult; however, he said, “It is very good for patient care.”

The ACR is a national organization serving more than 32,000 diagnostic and interventional radiologists, radiation oncologists, and nuclear medicine and medical physicists with programs focusing on the practice of medical imaging and radiation oncology and the delivery of comprehensive health care services.

The recent accreditation for Southwest Medical Center is good from February 15, 2010 through February 15, 2013.

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