November 14, 2014

Dear EMS Colleagues,

As many of you know, the New York State Department of Health (DOH) has adopted the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma (ACS-COT) standards and verification process for the State’s trauma system. This change was facilitated to ensure that trauma centers in New York State keep pace with current national standards in trauma care. The results of verification reviews by the ACS-COT will be used by the DOH to determine trauma center designation.

We are pleased to inform you that the Trauma Center at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset (NSUH) has achieved verification as a level one (1) trauma center by the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma, making it the first hospital in Nassau, Suffolk, New York City and Westchester to meet these newly adopted national standards. The ACS-COT places a significant emphasis on the role that pre-hospital providers and agencies play in the overall trauma system and the reviewers who surveyed NSUH were particularly impressed with the hospital’s relationships with its local EMS agencies. They were also impressed with the clinical care and clear passion of the individuals who make up those agencies. **We wanted to thank you and the larger EMS community for your contribution to NSUH’s success in trauma care.** This achievement recognizes our dedication to providing the optimal care for injured patients; together we accomplished this milestone and set an example for the rest of New York State.

As an ACS-COT verified level one trauma center, NSUH is considered to be a regional resource trauma center that is central to the trauma care system. By virtue of this verification, NSUH not only has the resources necessary for trauma care, but also the entire spectrum of care to address the needs of all injured patients. In addition to these acute care responsibilities, ACS-COT level one trauma centers have the major responsibility of providing leadership in education, research and system planning.

Thank you once again for your tireless commitment to the communities and patients we serve together, and for your dedication to this institution. We simply couldn’t do what we do without you, and that includes becoming Nassau, Suffolk, New York City and Westchester’s first American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma verified level one trauma center.

Warmest regards,

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