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## News Release

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### Community Hospital's Cardiovascular Rehabilitation Program Certified by Industry Leader

Mesa County, CO - Community Hospital is proud to announce the certification of its cardiovascular rehabilitation program by the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation (AACVPR). This certification is recognition of Community Hospital's commitment to improving the quality of life of patients by enhancing standards of care. Community Hospital's cardiovascular rehabilitation program is the only cardiac rehab program in Grand Junction to hold the AACVPR certification.

Cardiovascular and pulmonary rehabilitation programs are designed to help people with cardiovascular problems (e.g., heart attacks, coronary artery bypass graft surgery) and pulmonary problems (e.g., chronic obstructive pulmonary disease [COPD], respiratory symptoms) recover faster and live healthier. Both programs include exercise, education, counseling and support for patients and their families.

To earn accreditation, Community Hospital's cardiovascular rehabilitation program participated in an application process that requires extensive documentation of the program's practices. AACVPR Program Certification is the only peer-review accreditation process designed to review individual programs for adherence to standards and guidelines developed and published by AACVPR and other related professional societies. Each program's application is reviewed by the AACVPR Program Certification Committee, and certification is awarded by the AACVPR Board of Directors.

"The entire cardiac rehab staff has worked tirelessly to earn this certification and we are extremely proud of this accomplishment," said Joe Gerardi, Chief Operating Officer/Chief Nursing Officer at Community Hospital. "This certification is the gold standard for cardiovascular rehabilitation programs and demonstrates the high quality of care and engagement our staff provides to patients," added Gerardi.

In 2018, AACVPR moved to an outcomes-based process with performance measurements that represent more meaningful outcomes. Therefore, AACVPR-certified programs are leaders in the cardiovascular and pulmonary rehabilitation field because they offer the most advanced practices available and have proven track records of high quality patient care. AACVPR Program Certification is valid for three years.

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Great Care.  
Great Choice!