



NEWS

ANTELOPE VALLEY'S
HEALTHCARE
NEWS RESOURCE

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ANTELOPE VALLEY HOSPITAL AWARDED MEDAL OF HONOR FOR ORGAN DONATION CONVERSION RATE

(LANCASTER, CA – January 21, 2010) —Antelope Valley Hospital (AVH) was recently awarded a Bronze Medal of Honor by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for an organ donation conversion rate of 89. This means that AVH was able to harvest at least one organ from 89 percent of all potential donors. AVH is one of 19 hospitals in greater Los Angeles to receive a medal.

“Organ donation at Antelope Valley Hospital can only occur when a patient has suffered irreversible brain injury that will lead to certain death,” says Terri Fiske, Critical Care Unit Director for AVH. “Organ donation can offer families comfort when all seems lost, and at the same time, it turns tragedy into a life saving gift for another.”

The medals awarded by the HHS are Gold, Silver I, Silver II and Bronze. To qualify, a hospital must have eight potential organ donors over 12 consecutive months. The Bronze Medal of Honor is awarded to hospitals that have an organ donation conversion rate of greater than or equal to 75 percent. The HHS Department reports that AVH was one of 19 hospitals in the seven-county greater Los Angeles area to be recognized for excellence in supporting organ donation.

“Organ donation is one of the greatest gifts one can give,” says Edward Mirzabegian, AVH Chief Executive Officer. “I am honored to live in a community where residents and their families think about others and make the difficult decisions involved in organ donation.”

About Antelope Valley Hospital

Celebrating more than 50 years of caring for the community, Antelope Valley Hospital, a facility of Antelope Valley Healthcare District, is a non-profit, 420-bed hospital that was founded in 1955. The hospital is dedicated to providing quality care and services to everyone in the Antelope Valley. AV Hospital is located at 1600 West Avenue J in Lancaster, California. For further information, please visit www.avhospital.org or call 661-949-5000.

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