

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 16, 2021

London Health Sciences Centre Receives National Recognition for Meritorious Outcomes from The American College of Surgeons

London, ON — The American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP[®]) has recognized London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC) as one of 90 ACS NSQIP participating hospitals that have achieved meritorious outcomes for surgical patient care in 2020. As a participant in ACS NSQIP, LHSC is required to track the outcomes of inpatient and outpatient surgical procedures and collect data that assesses patient safety and can be used to direct improvement in the quality of surgical care.

“We are very proud and excited to have received this important designation” says Jerry Plastino, interim vice-president of clinical programs. “The year 2020 was a challenging one for healthcare in many ways, so it feels particularly special to receive this recognition at this time. It is a real testament to the skill and hard work of LHSC’s surgical team”.

The ACS NSQIP recognition program commends a select group of hospitals for achieving a meritorious composite score in either an “All Cases” category or a category which includes only “High Risk” cases. Risk-adjusted data from the July 2021 *ACS NSQIP Semiannual Report*, which presents data from the 2020 calendar year, were used to determine which hospitals demonstrated meritorious outcomes. LHSC has been recognized on the “High Risk” Meritorious list.

“Surgical Services at LHSC performed continuous performance review in 2016 through NSQIP to look for opportunities for system-based change that would allow for better care for the surgical population.” Says Dr Patrick Colquhoun, Surgical Quality Officer. “This recognition demonstrates the firm commitment to rigorous review of surgical outcomes and application of best practices to try to offer our patients efficient and effective hospital stays. This award places our center amongst the top tertiary care centers in North America.”

Each composite score was determined through a different weighted formula combining eight outcomes. The outcome performances related to patient management were in the following eight clinical areas: mortality, unplanned intubation, ventilator greater than 48 hours, renal failure, cardiac incidents (cardiac arrest and myocardial infarction); respiratory (pneumonia); SSI (surgical site infections-superficial and deep incisional and organ-space SSIs); or urinary tract infection.

The 90 commended hospitals achieved the distinction based on their outstanding composite quality score across the eight areas listed above. Seventy-one hospitals were initially recognized on the “All Cases” list and 71 hospitals were initially recognized on the “High Risk” list; the 71 hospitals represent approximately 10 percent of the 706 calendar-year 2020 ACS

NSQIP hospitals. Fifty-two hospitals are recognized on both the “All Cases” and “High Risk” lists, 19 other hospitals are on just the “All Cases” list, and 19 other hospitals are on the “High Risk” list only, yielding 90 hospitals in total.

About London Health Sciences Centre

London Health Sciences Centre has been at the forefront of medicine in Canada for 146 years and offers the broadest range of specialized clinical services in Ontario. Building on the traditions of its founding hospitals to provide compassionate care in an academic teaching setting, London Health Sciences Centre is home to Children’s Hospital, University Hospital, Victoria Hospital, the Kidney Care Centre, two family medical centres, and two research institutes – Children’s Health Research Institute and Lawson Health Research Institute. As a leader in medical discovery and health research, London Health Sciences Centre has a history of over 70 international and national firsts and attracts top clinicians and researchers from around the world. As a regional referral centre, London Health Sciences Centre cares for the most medically complex patients including critically injured adults and children in southwestern Ontario and beyond. The hospital’s nearly 15,000 staff, physicians, students and volunteers provide care for more than one million patient visits a year. For more information visit www.lhsc.on.ca

About the The American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP®)

ACS NSQIP is the only nationally validated quality improvement program that measures and enhances the care of surgical patients. This program measures the actual surgical results 30 days postoperatively as well as risk adjusts patient characteristics to compensate for differences among patient populations and acuity levels. The goal of ACS NSQIP is to reduce surgical morbidity (infection or illness related to a surgical procedure) and surgical mortality (death related to a surgical procedure) and to provide a firm foundation for surgeons to apply what is known as the “best scientific evidence” to the practice of surgery. Furthermore, when adverse effects from surgical procedures are reduced and/or eliminated, a reduction in health care costs follows. ACS NSQIP is a major program of the American College of Surgeons and is currently used in nearly 850 adult and pediatric hospitals.

About the American College of Surgeons (ACS)

The American College of Surgeons is a scientific and educational organization of surgeons that was founded in 1913 to raise the standards of surgical practice and to improve the care of the surgical patient. The College is dedicated to the ethical and competent practice of surgery. Its achievements have significantly influenced the course of scientific surgery in America and have established it as an important advocate for all surgical patients. The College has more than 82,000 members and it is the largest organization of surgeons in the world.

-30-

For media inquiries contact:

Sara Wilson
Communications Consultant
London Health Sciences Centre
519-685-8500 ext 75724
Sara.Wilson@lhsc.on.ca