



## Hospital gets national accreditation

### Staff Reports

March 11, 2008

The Northern Colorado Long Term Acute Hospital has become the only licensed long-term acute care hospital in northern Colorado.

The Johnstown hospital has gained national accreditation by the Joint Commission of Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, and has also earned its Medicare certification. The hospital has been open since August of last year.

To receive Medicare certification, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services stipulate that a hospital must have a average 25-day length of stay for Medicare patients. Federal health officials analyzed the hospital's ability to care for medically complex patients for extended periods and certified the hospital once the study was complete.

The recent accreditation followed an intense survey of the hospital's services and practices. The accreditation means the facility has met or exceeded the national standards for health care quality and safety.

Unlike nursing homes and skilled nursing centers, Northern Colorado Long Term Acute Hospital takes seriously ill patients from the acute hospital setting with the goal of stabilizing the patient and, through advanced medical care and rehabilitation, moves them toward independence or the next appropriate level of care.

The facility has 20 beds and features four high-observation rooms, a 6,000 square-foot therapy gym, aquatic therapy pool, outdoor therapy courtyard and full-service bistro. The hospital also has digital imaging technology along with the latest in information technology, linking it to dozens of other medical facilities throughout northern Colorado.

### For more:

More information on the Northern Colorado Long Term Acute Hospital is available at [www.ncltah.ernesthealth.com](http://www.ncltah.ernesthealth.com)

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