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Dr. Leigh A. Neumayer

A Message from the Office of Interim Senior Vice President for Health Sciences Dr. Leigh A. Neumayer

Sept. 27, 2017

Dear Colleagues,

As you may have heard, The Joint Commission was on the grounds of Banner – University Medical Center Tucson and its associated clinics for four days last week for the hospital’s triennial accreditation survey.

Ten surveyors pored over every aspect of hospital and clinic operations with The Joint Commission’s usual rigor to ensure that the care provided here is safe and effective. They interviewed scores of physicians, nurses, patients and family members. They left no stone unturned.

Banner Health was well-prepared for this survey. In addition to two recent mock surveys, Banner leadership has conducted frequent audits, dry runs, inspections, rounding and education over the last two and a half years.

Although The Joint Commission’s final survey assessment will not be delivered for a few weeks, Banner leaders believe the survey went well and expect Banner – UMC Tucson will receive full accreditation, undoubtedly with a few “findings” where surveyors noted deviations from their high standards. This is expected and common. The hospital already has begun correcting those deficiencies and will be ready if The Joint Commission’s surveyors return for follow-up.

Throughout their visit, The Joint Commission’s surveyors were highly complementary of the hospital’s physician-faculty and staff. The enormous improvements made over the past three years were apparent to all.

I want to thank UA physician-faculty and our Banner colleagues for their contributions to this critically important accreditation survey and for this affirmation of our academic-medicine partnership.

Leigh A. Neumayer, MD, MS, FACS
Interim Senior Vice President
University of Arizona Health Sciences



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