



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NAUGATUCK VALLEY RADIOLOGY
AWARDED ACCREDITATION FROM THE JOINT COMMISSION**

***Local Practice Gains Recognition Among Distinguished Group
of Approximately 100 Diagnostic Imaging Providers Nationwide,
Meets New Medicare/Medicaid Standards Nearly Two Years Ahead of Requirement***

Waterbury, CT (March 22, 2010)—Naugatuck Valley Radiology, a healthcare provider operating six medical imaging facilities in New Haven County, has earned the Gold Seal of Approval™ from the Joint Commission, an organization that maintains national standards for healthcare quality and safety.

The accreditation applies to Naugatuck Valley Radiology's offices in Prospect and Naugatuck and their three offices in Waterbury, as well as Diagnostic Imaging of Southbury.

"Naugatuck Valley Radiology has always been committed to providing the highest quality imaging services utilizing the most advanced technology, with a special emphasis on safety and patient-centered care," said Paul Masotto, Executive Director of Imaging, Naugatuck Valley Radiology. "Meeting The Joint Commission's rigorous accreditation standards is an important recognition of our efforts."

"Accreditation by The Joint Commission sets Naugatuck Valley Radiology apart," says Michael Kulczycki, MBA, executive director of the Joint Commission's Ambulatory Care Accreditation Program. "Organizations awarded this Gold Seal of Approval dedicate themselves to continuous operational improvement."

As part of the accreditation process, The Joint Commission conducted an unannounced, on-site evaluation of Naugatuck Valley Radiology. Standards for diagnostic imaging

centers focus on the qualifications of medical personnel and medical directors, the performance specifications for imaging equipment, and quality assurance and quality control programs to ensure the safety, reliability, clarity and accuracy of diagnostic imaging. Currently, about 100 imaging providers are accredited nationwide.

"Our staff has been very supportive of the process," says Masotto. "It gives them a feeling of prestige to work in an accredited organization. They have also viewed their involvement with the survey as an opportunity for continuing professional development and education, and have found it rewarding to interact with The Joint Commission's team."

Under a new mandate from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), accreditation by the Joint Commission will be required by January 1, 2012 for all outpatient providers of advanced diagnostic imaging services (including MRI, CT, PET, and nuclear medicine) to Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries.

"By gaining accreditation well ahead of the 2012 deadline, we're pleased to ensure our community that an imaging center compliant with the new CMS policy will be available to Medicare and Medicaid patients in Central Connecticut," says Masotto.

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About Naugatuck Valley Radiology

Naugatuck Valley Radiology was started by a group of radiologists, affiliated with St. Mary's Hospital (Waterbury, Connecticut) in 1975. Since that time the group has expanded to include six locations throughout New Haven County. Their commitment to the community includes the delivery of efficient, friendly and convenient medical imaging services to residents of the county. To learn more, visit their Web site at <http://www.nvranet.com>.

For further information or to arrange interview, photo, or video opportunities, please contact:

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