

Highest Honor for Emergency Management Awarded to the First Health Care Entity in the world

Newport, RI. – King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre (Gen. Org) made history this week as the first Health Care Entity to ever earn Emergency Management Programs accreditation by the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). The King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre Emergency (disaster) Management and Safety & Security departments manage the security and preparedness program to help protect patients, employees, and assets throughout the King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre Hospital System.

“Congratulations to King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre (Gen. Org) for achieving this significant accomplishment in emergency management by earning accreditation. Through their commitment and leadership, they have demonstrated to their employees, patients and stakeholders their program is sustainable, and safety and security are a top priority.” stated Robie Robinson, Executive Director of Public Safety, University of Tennessee- Chattanooga and the EMAP Commission Chair.

King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre (Gen. Org) was commissioned in 1970 by his Highness King Faisal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud in the Saudi Arabian capital of Riyadh and opened in 1975. They recently broke the 1 million mark for in/outpatients treated per year and are honored to serve the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and visiting foreign dignitaries such as the President of the United States of America, when in the country. Today it has developed into a leader in healthcare and innovation and has become the first hospital in the world to be Accredited by EMAP!

Providing emergency management programs the opportunity to be evaluated and recognized for compliance with standards certified by the American National Standard Institute (ANSI) and recognized by the industry complies with the EMAP’s mission to build safer communities through credible standards of excellence. These programs demonstrate accountability and focus attention on areas and issues where resources are needed to heighten their preparedness efforts to any technical or natural disaster that may affect their communities.

To achieve accreditation, applicants must demonstrate through self-assessment, documentation and peer assessment verification that its program meets the *Emergency Management Standard*. The emergency management program uses the accreditation to prove the capabilities of their disaster preparedness and response systems. Accreditation is valid for five years and the program must maintain compliance with the *Emergency Management Standard* and is reassessed to maintain accredited status.

For those programs that were undergoing reaccreditation, this achievement proves just as significant. By maintaining their accredited status throughout the years, these programs prove that they adhere to the *Emergency Management Standard*, and successfully maintain accreditation status to achieve future reaccreditation.

EMAP revolutionizes emergency management programs that coordinate preparedness and response activities for disasters based on standards. EMAP recognizes the ability of emergency management programs to bring together personnel, resources and communications from a variety of agencies and organizations in preparation for and in response to an emergency, in addition to obtaining the ability to measure those capabilities. The *Emergency Management Standard* is flexible in design so that programs of differing sizes, populations, risks and resources can use it as a blueprint for improvement and can attain compliance with those standards in an accreditation process. The accreditation process evaluates emergency management programs on compliance with requirements in sixteen areas, including: planning; resource management; training; exercises, evaluations, and corrective actions; communications and warning; and administration. This forms the foundation of the nation’s emergency preparedness system. EMAP is the only accreditation process for emergency management programs and welcomes King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre as the 100th accredited program.