

*Ukiah Valley
Medical Center*



Marketing/Development
275 Hospital Drive
Ukiah, CA 95482
Phone: 707-463-7606
Fax: 707-463-7384

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CONTACT: Jarrod McNaughton, Administrative Director, Marketing & Development
707-463-7606

**UKIAH VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER RECEIVES
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGY ACCREDITATION**

Ukiah Valley Medical Center (UVMC) has been awarded a 3-year term of accreditation in digital mammography as the result of a recent survey by the American College of Radiology (ACR).

The ACR, awards accreditation to facilities for the achievement of high practice standards after a peer-review evaluation of the hospital. Evaluations are conducted by board-certified physicians and medical physicists who are experts in the field. They assess the qualifications of the personnel and the adequacy of facility equipment. The surveyors report their findings to the ACR's Committee on Accreditation, which subsequently provides the hospital with a comprehensive report.

UVMC's digital mammography is a new mammography system that enables its physicians to better detect and diagnose breast cancer in patients. The innovative digital system provides outstanding image quality and clear, highly detailed images of the breast. Ukiah Valley Medical Center's new Senographe[®] DS full-field digital mammography system, acquired from GE Healthcare, is the most modern mammography equipment available to patients today.

"Now UVMC's physicians and the patients of Northern California have a new and powerful tool in the detection and fight against breast cancer," said UVMC Radiologist Randy Bivens, MD. "This

new, all-digital system is revolutionizing breast care by providing our patients with state-of-the-art mammograms that are faster, easier and more comfortable than ever before, while providing our physicians with highly detailed images to use in the diagnosis.”

According to the American Cancer Society, it is estimated that new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed among 211,240 women and 1,690 men in 2005. An estimated 40,870 women and 460 men will die of this disease.

“This new digital technology will help us provide the most advanced care for our patients by providing clear, high-detailed images, which is the first step towards an accurate diagnosis and getting a patient on the proper treatment plan to good health,” said UVMC President & CEO Mark E. LaRose.

UVMC’s Senographe DS is equipped with computer aided detection (CAD) software called “Image Checker.” The new software acts as a radiologist’s “second pair of eyes” when reading a mammogram. Similar to a spellchecker system on a personal computer, this technology has the potential to detect findings that might otherwise be overlooked during the review process, thus improving the opportunity for cancer detection.

For more information or to schedule at mammogram at UVMC, call 707-463-7342.

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The American College of Radiology is a national organization serving more than 32,000 diagnostic/interventional radiologists, radiation oncologists, and medical physicists with programs focusing on the practice of medical imaging and radiation oncology and the delivery of comprehensive health care services.

Ukiah Valley Medical Center is part of Adventist Health, a not-for-profit, faith-based health system operating in California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington. Founded on the Seventh-day Adventist heritage of Christian health care, Adventist Health is comprised of 20 hospitals with more than 3,100 beds, 18,800 employees, numerous clinics and outpatient facilities, 16 home care agencies and three joint-venture retirement centers. Locally, UVMC and Howard Memorial Hospital partner to provide Mendocino and Lake County Residents the very best in healthcare. For more information, visit www.uvmc.org or www.adventisthealth.org.