

For immediate release

For additional information
Contact: Larry Lichtenauer
(410) 363-6205

**LUTHERVILLE SURGICENTER EARNS ACCREDITATION FROM
ACCREDITATION ASSOCIATION FOR AMBULATORY HEALTH CARE**

*Facility owned and operated by physicians of
Greater Chesapeake Hand Specialists, P.A.*

Baltimore, MD (February 22, 2010) – Lutherville SurgiCenter, a facility owned and operated by the physicians of Greater Chesapeake Hand Specialists, P.A., has earned accreditation by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC). The recognition certifies that Lutherville SurgiCenter has met or exceeded national standards for the provision of quality health care, as established by the independent Accreditation Association.

Ambulatory health care organizations seeking accreditation by the AAAHC undergo an extensive self-assessment and on-site survey by volunteer physicians, nurses and administrators, who act as expert surveyors on behalf of the Accreditation Association. The survey is both consultative and educational, presenting best practices to help an organization improve its care and services.

“The accreditation process was a valuable exercise for our physicians, nurses and administrative staff, as it challenged everyone to discover new and better ways to serve our patients,” explained Linda McCoy, R.N., Director of Nursing of Lutherville SurgiCenter. “Because not all ambulatory health care organizations seek or are granted accreditation, this designation differentiates our facility from others in the local marketplace and positively positions our facility, professionals and practice techniques.”

Opened in 1999 and located within the professional facilities of Greater Chesapeake Hand Specialists on 1400 Front Avenue, it is utilized by GCHS for a variety of outpatient surgical procedures involving the hand and upper extremity. Nine board-certified surgeons and anesthesiologists are based at the SurgiCenter.

The accreditation is valid for three consecutive years and this represents the fourth time, since 2000, that the Lutherville SurgiCenter has earned the designation.

-more-

AAHC accreditation is designed specifically for organizations that provide diagnostic or medical care on an outpatient basis, where an overnight stay would not be required. Among the types of ambulatory health care organizations that can seek AAHC accreditation are ambulatory and office-based surgery centers, single and multi-specialty group practices, college health centers, dental group practices, community health centers, occupational health centers and managed care organizations.

Founded in 1987 and based in Lutherville, MD, Greater Chesapeake Hand Specialists, P.A. focuses on providing successful outcomes for the entire spectrum of problems associated with the hand, wrist, elbow and shoulder. The practice group, which consists of nine full-time physicians, maintains seven satellite locations throughout Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Howard and Talbot counties, as well as Baltimore City. For more information visit www.chesapeakehand.com