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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Firelands Regional Medical Center Earns ACR Accreditation

(April 13, 2011 – Sandusky, Ohio) Firelands Regional Medical Center has been awarded a three-year term of re-accreditation in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), including breast MRI, as the result of a recent review by the American College of Radiology (ACR). MRI is a noninvasive medical test that utilizes magnetic fields to produce anatomical images of internal body parts to help physicians diagnose and treat medical conditions. Firelands is the only facility in the region who has the breast MRI accreditation.

“Accreditations in healthcare are evidence of a commitment to excellence,” explains Mike Vickery, Area Director, Radiology & Laboratory Services. “Patients can choose where they want to have their diagnostic imaging studies performed and we would suggest that when choosing diagnostic imaging services, such as breast MRI, patients should look for facilities with full accreditations by the American College of Radiology or the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Vascular Labs.”

Firelands Regional Medical Center provides the area’s widest range of diagnostic testing services and provides Board Certified and specialty-trained radiologists onsite for personal consultation. In addition to breast MRI, Firelands Regional Medical Center also provides the following diagnostic imaging services:

- PET/CT
- CT & MRI

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- Digital mammography
- Ultrasound-guided breast biopsy
- Ultrasound & breast ultrasound
- Stereotactic breast biopsy
- Nuclear medicine

Firelands' Women's Health & Wellness Center is the region's only:

- Designated Breast Center of Excellence
- Facility fully accredited in Digital Mammography, Breast MRI, Breast Ultrasound, Stereotactic Breast Biopsy, and ultrasound-guided Breast Biopsy
- Facility performing Radioactive Seed Localization for non-palpable breast lesions

You do have a choice of where to go for Imaging Services. For more information about Imaging Services at Firelands Regional Medical Center, visit firelands.com.

About the American College of Radiology

The ACR gold seal of accreditation represents the highest level of image quality and patient safety. It is awarded only to facilities meeting ACR Practice Guidelines and Technical Standards after a peer-review evaluation by board-certified physicians and medical physicists who are experts in the field. Image quality, personnel qualifications, adequacy of facility equipment, quality control procedures, and quality assurance programs are assessed. The findings are reported to the ACR Committee on Accreditation, which subsequently provides the practice with a comprehensive report they can use for continuous practice improvement.

The ACR is a national professional organization serving more than 34,000 diagnostic/interventional radiologists, radiation oncologists, nuclear medicine physicians, and medical physicists with programs focusing on the practice of medical imaging and radiation oncology and the delivery of comprehensive health care services.

About Firelands Regional Medical Center

Firelands Regional Medical Center is nationally recognized for its award-winning care. As a 400-bed facility, Firelands is ranked #1 in Ohio and in the Top 5% nationally for Vascular Surgery and Overall Orthopedic Surgery; Top 10% Nationally in Acute Inpatient Rehabilitation, a Thomson Top 100 Hospital for its Cardiovascular Services, and ranked in the Top 5% nationally for Patient Safety. Firelands Regional Medical Center is the area's only Accredited Chest Pain Center, and is a Certified Primary Stroke Center, is the area's only Breast Imaging Center of Excellence. Serving a five-county region, Firelands provides many advanced care services to the region including comprehensive cancer care, full-time interventional cardiac care and open heart surgery, wound care services including hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT), acute inpatient rehabilitation, as well as many advanced surgical procedures. For more information about Firelands, visit our website at firelands.com.

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