



Banner Health

North Colorado
Medical Center®



Nurses: Why Our Magnet™ Status Is Important To You

What is the Magnet Recognition Program®?

The Magnet Recognition Program® is a prestigious status given to health care organizations in recognition of excellence in nursing care. The American Nurses Credentialing Services (ANCC) formally established the Magnet Recognition Program in 1994.

In 1983, the American Academy of Nursing's (AAN) Task Force on Nursing Practice in Hospitals conducted a study of 163 hospitals to identify and describe variables that created an environment that attracted and retained well-qualified nurses who promoted quality patient, resident, and client care. Forty-one (41) of the 163 institutions were described as "magnet" hospitals because of their ability to attract and retain professional nurses. The characteristics that seem to distinguish "Magnet" organizations from others became known as the "Forces of Magnetism".

Patients and their families are beginning to understand that the Magnet Recognition Program provides them with superior benchmarking criteria about the quality of care they can expect to receive. In fact Magnet™ recognition has become the 'gold standard' in nursing excellence.

North Colorado Medical Center is a Magnet™ recognized hospital

Of approximately 6,000 hospitals nationwide, less than 250 have earned Magnet recognition to date—a

four year designation by ANCC. North Colorado Medical Center was chosen for the delivery of exceptional patient care; promoting staff growth and development; and positive patient outcomes. With more than 750 nursing professionals serving an estimated 16,000 inpatients annually, it is the largest and longest serving medical center in northern Colorado to hold the honor.

Characteristics of a Magnet hospital

At a Magnet facility patients are likely to experience shorter hospital stays and increased satisfaction with their care. What's more, Magnet hospitals typically have lower mortality rates. Other important benefits of Magnet designation include:

- Greater recognition from the community for nursing and the health care organization
- Strong nurse-to-patient ratios
- Enhanced recruitment and retention of highly qualified nurses or other professionals

Benefits of Magnet Recognition Program for nursing professionals

Nurses often prefer to work in a Magnet facility and thus have greater satisfaction with their job, and remain in their roles longer assuring an experienced staff. Nurses who work in a Magnet facility enjoy a great deal of autonomy and interdisciplinary support. Collaboration, quality and pride are the outcome.

