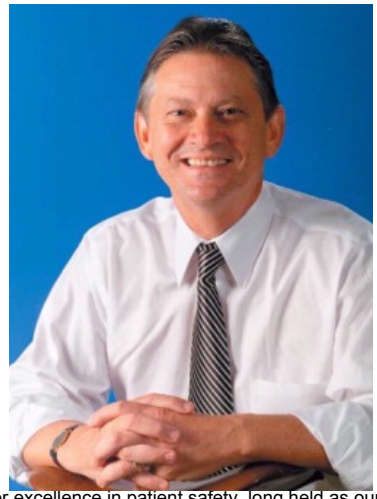
President's Message

PUTTING SAFETY FIRST



I am proud that Eisenhower has recently achieved recognition for excellence in patient safety, long held as our number one service commitment to our patients. In conjunction with the release of its *Fifth Annual Patient Safety* in *American Hospitals Study*, HealthGrades®, a leading independent health care ratings organization, recognized Eisenhower Medical Center with its 2008 Distinguished Hospital Award for Patient Safety™. In this issue of *Healthy Living*, you will find information about this significant recognition, which only 249 hospitals in the nation received.

I am also pleased to note that Eisenhower Medical Center is ***one of only 80 hospitals*** of the nearly 5,000 hospitals in the nation ranked by HealthGrades to receive both the Patient Safety award*and* the previously announced 2008 Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence™. Once again, I thank our physicians, nurses, staff and volunteers who daily dedicate themselves to the safety and well-being of our patients and make these achievements possible.

Our Cardiovascular Center of Excellence also received multiple recognitions from HealthGrades, including five star ratings in the care of atrial fibrillation and heart failure. You will find more information about these achievements and can learn more about these conditions in our "Feature" and "Program Spotlight."
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—G. Aubrey Serfling, President and Chief Executive Officer of Eisenhower Medical Center

While we take pride in our accomplishments, we continue to advance our technologies and programs at Eisenhower to better serve your health care needs. You will find several exciting announcements, including our new Eisenhower Bariatric Center, our introduction of da Vinci® robotic surgery, and the installation of ROBOT-Rx®, an automated drug dispensing system that places Eisenhower on the leading edge of medication safety, among others.

As the end of the year approaches, I reflect on what a remarkable year 2008 has been for Eisenhower Medical Center.We have seen tremendous progress on our construction and expansion efforts across our campus and in La Quinta and have achieved numerous recognitions that distinguish our commitment to outstanding patient care. Our medical center is here to serve you; we hope that you feel as keenly the pride and excitement of each advancement and success as we do.

Please enjoy this issue of *Healthy Living* and know that we are here for you.

Yours in good health,

G. Aubrey Serfling
President and Chief Executive Officer
Eisenhower Medical Center

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