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Benefit of Specialty Hospitals Recognized by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Patient advocates received good news this week as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released its final report, ending the ban that prohibited Medicare certification for new specialty hospitals. Specialty hospitals, such as Texas Spine & Joint Hospital, provide quality medical care in specific areas of medicine and are owned by private investors, usually physicians.

“This report by CMS is significant to high quality healthcare for patients and physicians,” says Tony Wahl, ceo of Texas Spine & Joint Hospital. “The competitive force created in the healthcare market from the existence of specialty hospitals raises the level of quality and care across the board.”

The report, mandated by the Deficit Reduction Act, recognized that although specialty hospitals have compensation arrangements with their physician owners, general hospitals also have payment agreements with their network physicians. “We formed Texas Spine & Joint Hospital to create a specialized orthopedic and spine center that would bring exceptional service to our patients,” said Dr. Michael Russell, physician partner. “Our belief that a facility solely dedicated to this specialty would give our patients the best service has been repeatedly confirmed by their positive feedback and outcomes.”

We believe that patients should have a choice on where they receive healthcare based on service, environment, and clinical excellence,” says Tony Wahl, ceo of Texas Spine & Joint Hospital. “This report has confirmed that this patient service is here to stay.”