

## **Carter Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation receives American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation certification**

**Fort Worth, Texas** – Baylor Scott & White Heart and Vascular Hospital – Fort Worth and Baylor Scott & White All Saints Medical Center – Fort Worth leaders are proud to announce the certification of the Carter Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation program by the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation (AACVPR). Carter Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation was recognized for its commitment to improving the quality of life by enhancing standards of care.

Cardiovascular and pulmonary rehabilitation programs are designed to help people with cardiovascular problems (e.g., heart attacks, coronary artery bypass graft surgery) and pulmonary problems (e.g., chronic obstructive pulmonary disease [COPD], respiratory symptoms,) recover faster and improve their quality of life. Both programs include exercise, education, counseling, and support for patients and their families.

The rehabilitation program participated in an application process that requires extensive documentation of the program's practices. AACVPR Program Certification is the only peer-review accreditation process designed to review individual programs for adherence to standards and guidelines developed and published by AACVPR and other professional societies. Each program is reviewed by the AACVPR Program Certification Committee and Certification is awarded by the AACVPR Board of Directors.

AACVPR-certified programs are recognized as leaders in the field of cardiovascular and pulmonary rehabilitation because they offer the most advanced practices available. AACVPR Program Certification is valid for three years.

A part of Baylor Scott & White Heart and Vascular Hospital – Fort Worth, on the campus of Baylor Scott & White All Saints Medical Center – Fort Worth, the Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program had more than 7,800 patient treatments in the prior fiscal year. Patients travel from all over the greater Tarrant and surrounding counties for this program that completely individualizes patients' treatment and rehabilitation care plans.

The certified and experienced exercise physiologists and nurses work closely with cardiologists, pulmonologists and with oversight from the medical director, cardiologist on the medical staff, Sam Nassar, MD, FACC, FACOI.

"This certification reflects the dedication and diligence of the entire Baylor Scott & White team and our continuing commitment to provide a quality program for cardiovascular and pulmonary rehabilitation to our community," says Dr. Nassar, medical director for the program. "The rigorous certification process ensures that Baylor is in the top echelon of programs nationally and will continue to be the standard of care well into the future."

### **About AACVPR**

Founded in 1985, the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation is a multidisciplinary organization dedicated to the mission of reducing morbidity, mortality and disability from cardiovascular and pulmonary disease through education, prevention, rehabilitation, research and disease management. Central to the core mission is improvement in quality of life for patients and their families.