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### **MEDICAL CENTER CELEBRATES REGISTERED DIETITIAN DAY**

The Department of Nutrition and Food Management at Hackensack University Medical Center (HUMC) recently celebrated the first national Registered Dietitian Day, as part of National Nutrition Month®, with a lunch for its 29 Registered Dietitians (RDs). Staff dined on salmon, potato latkes, sautéed vegetables, fresh fruit, and received handmade chocolate boxes that contained RD pins. The day was created by the American Dietetic Association to increase the awareness of registered dietitians as the indispensable providers of nutrition expertise and to recognize RDs for their commitment to helping people enjoy healthy lives by making positive lifestyle changes. The medical center's RDs are committed to improving the health of our patients and community. More than half of them have a master's degree and/or Advanced Certification.

“We are delighted to recognize our RDs today – they are there for our patients and for each other, every day,” said Irma A. Newdorf, RD, MPH, assistant director of Nutrition and Food Management at HUMC. Janet O’Toole, RD, MS, of Allendale, clinical nutrition supervisor, presented Irma with flowers from the staff in appreciation

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for being an excellent role model. Janet and Irma shared positive correspondence received from patients with the healthcare team.

HealthGrades® named HUMC one of America's 50 Best Hospitals for the second consecutive year. This designation recognizes hospitals that have demonstrated superior clinical quality over a seven-year time period, based upon an analysis of more than 75 million Medicare patient records from 1999-2005. These hospitals have achieved better survival rates and lower complication rates across dozens of medical procedures and diagnoses, from cardiac care to orthopaedic surgery, consistently ranking among the top five percent in the nation for overall clinical outcomes. HUMC is the only healthcare facility in New Jersey, New York, and New England to be named one of America's 50 Best Hospitals. Only one percent of the nation's hospitals can make this claim.



Pictured from left are: Hackensack University Medical Center healthcare team members Janet O'Toole, RD, MS, of Allendale, clinical nutrition supervisor; Irma A. Newdorf, RD, MPH, assistant director of Nutrition and Food Management; and Paul Kreger, RD, MA, of Bergenfield, chief steward, display the chocolate boxes with pins they presented to the medical center's RDs.