

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Sept. 8, 2014

Contact:

Tiffany Zingg, Aultman Corporate Communications 330-363-5319, tzingg@aultman.com

Acute Care Specialty Hospital Celebrates 10 Years of Caring for Chronically Critically III Patients

CANTON, Ohio (Sept. 8, 2014) – The Acute Care Specialty Hospital, located on the fourth floor inside Aultman Hospital, is marking its 10-year anniversary in 2014.

"Our facility is a 'hospital within a hospital," said Acute Care Specialty Hospital President and CEO Terry Smith. "We provide extended, acute care to patients who have progressed beyond a medical or surgical intensive care unit but still need specialized care."

The Acute Care Specialty Hospital team cares for patients with medically complex respiratory, cardiac and kidney conditions, neurological disorders and wounds. Typically, 70 percent of patients are on ventilators – and the average length of stay is 27 days.

More than 250 physicians are on the Acute Care Specialty Hospital medical staff. The hospital employs 90 team members including specially trained nurses and respiratory therapists, case managers, therapists, a registered dietitian and pharmacist.

"We take a team approach – involving physicians and clinical specialists in a variety of areas – in helping patients meet their goals toward recovery," Smith shared.

Physicians who specialize in critical care medicine make daily rounds to check on every patient, and the entire clinical team meets weekly to review cases.

Acute Care Specialty Hospital Fast Facts

- Opened in February 2004 inside Aultman Hospital
- First patient was diagnosed with acute respiratory distress
- Longest length of stay was 198 days

Accredited by The Joint Commission, the Acute Care Specialty Hospital offers 30 private and spacious patient rooms. Visiting hours are 9 a.m.-9 p.m. daily. "We welcome patients' loved ones to our unit," Smith said, "and encourage them to take an active role in helping patients in the recovery process."

About Aultman

The Aultman Health Foundation is a not-for-profit health care organization serving Stark and surrounding counties. The vertically integrated institution includes Aultman Hospital, Autlman Orrville Hospital, the locally managed health-insurance provider AultCare, The Aultman Foundation and Aultman College of Nursing and Health Sciences. With 808 beds, 535 active physicians and a staff of more than 5,000 employees, Aultman is Stark County's largest hospital. For more information, visit www.aultman.org.