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*For Immediate Release*

### **WCHS Laboratory Team Achieves CLIA Certificate of Compliance for High Complexity Testing**

Winnebago, NE – Winnebago Comprehensive Healthcare System (WCHS) is proud to announce that our laboratory team has been awarded a two-year Certificate of Compliance under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) program for high complexity laboratory testing. This recertification reflects our ongoing commitment to excellence in laboratory services and patient care.

The certification follows a rigorous survey process, during which our laboratory was evaluated on various practices, including but not limited to:

- **Instrumental Validation and Verification:** Ensuring that all laboratory instruments are correctly calibrated and verified for accuracy and reliability.
- **Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs):** Reviewing and updating SOPs to maintain consistency and adherence to best practices.
- **Personnel Documentation and Education:** Confirming that all laboratory staff are properly credentialed, trained, and continuously educated to meet the demands of high complexity testing.
- **Quality Control:** Implementing stringent quality control measures to ensure the accuracy and precision of all test results.

#### *About CLIA and Its Importance*

The CLIA program was established by Congress in 1988 to ensure the accuracy, reliability, and timeliness of laboratory testing in the United States. Laboratories performing complex testing are subject to regular inspections and must meet specific standards for personnel, equipment, quality control, and proficiency testing.

Achieving CLIA compliance is a significant milestone for any laboratory, as it ensures that the facility meets or exceeds the rigorous federal standards required for high complexity testing. This certification is crucial because it assures patients and healthcare providers that the laboratory results that they rely on for diagnosis and treatment are accurate and dependable.



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“This certification is a testament to the dedication and expertise of our laboratory team,” said Dr. Ganesh Kini, Chief Medical Officer of WCHS. “Maintaining the highest standards in laboratory testing is essential to providing the best possible care to our patients, and this achievement underscores our commitment to excellence and innovation in all aspects of our services.”

The two-year Certificate of Compliance allows WCHS to continue offering a full range of laboratory services with the confidence that our practices meet the highest standards set by the CLIA program.

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*The Winnebago Comprehensive Healthcare System (WCHS) is dedicated to creating and sustaining a healthy community in Winnebago and all the populations we serve. Our organization provides an integrated approach to medicine by offering care services that are compassionate, innovative, and culturally-centered. Our goal is to lead the nation in health for indigenous people by challenging the culture of healthcare for the 10,000 Native Americans who live on the Winnebago Reservation and in the surrounding region. The rural healthcare services we provide include renowned acute care hospital services, a robust primary care clinic, and impressive prevention programs designed to educate, encourage, and support the mental, environmental, social, and physical wellness needs of the Winnebago community. Visit [www.wchs.health](http://www.wchs.health) to learn more.*