Gastroenterologist of 22 Years Joins Melbourne Regional, Steward Health Care

Mahboob M. Alikhan, MD, FACP, has continuing fascination with function and complexity of digestive tract

Melbourne, Florida (December 18, 2019) – <u>Melbourne Regional Medical Center</u>, a member of <u>Steward Health Care</u> family, is pleased to welcome Mahboob M. Alikhan, MD, FACP. Board-certified in gastroenterology, Dr. Alikhan specializes in diagnosing, treating and preventing many problems of the digestive tract and related organs.

"The GI tract is a very fascinating and diverse organ," said Dr. Alikhan. "It's interrelated with the brain and nervous system, with hormones and the immune system. There's a lot of complexity related to this organ, which makes it all extremely interesting."

Dr. Alikhan earned his medical degree from Loyola University of Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine. He did his internal medicine residency at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood, IL, and completed his gastroenterology fellowship at Indiana University Medical Center under renowned physicians in the field, such as Douglas Rex, MD; Glen A. Lehman, MD; and Stuart Sherman, MD.

Fluent in multiple languages, including Hindi and Urdu, the Chicago native has been a physician for 22 years, serving in Port St. Lucie, Merritt Island and Melbourne.

One of his primary career objectives is educating the community about colorectal cancer prevention. Dr. Alikhan treats <u>GERD/Barrett's disease</u>, colon cancer and polyps, among many other conditions of the digestive tract.

The Consumers' Research Council of America rated Dr. Alikhan as a top physician in the 2009-2010 list of America's Top Gastroenterologists List. <u>The American College of Physicians</u> has named him a fellow.

Dr. Alikhan has written a number of articles, case reports and abstracts for such pubs as the American Journal of Gastroenterology and Gastrointestinal Endoscopy.

He said that treating patients with GI problems gives him an opportunity to improve their quality of life, which he finds deeply satisfying. "It's the impact I'm able to make on the lives of patients who come to us in times of distress: That makes it all worthwhile when we can ease pain, comfort patients, offer moral support and compassion," Dr. Alikhan said. "Medicine gives us an opportunity to make the world a better place."

Dr. Alikhan is now accepting new patients at his practice at 240 North Wickham Road, Suite 309, Melbourne, FL 32935. Anyone wishing to schedule an appointment may call the practice at (321) 752-1630.

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About Steward Health Care – Rockledge & Melbourne

The Mission of Rockledge Regional Medical Center and Melbourne Regional Medical Center is to provide the highest quality health care with compassion and respect. Both hospitals are full acute care hospitals and include a network of affiliates providing rehab services, wound care, laboratory services and assisted living. For more information on Rockledge Regional Medical Center or Melbourne Regional Medical Center, visit: <u>www.Rockledgeregional.org</u> and <u>www.Melbourneregional.org</u>.

About Steward Health Care System

<u>Steward Health Care</u> is the nation's largest private, tax paying physician-led health care network in the United States. Headquartered in Dallas, Texas, Steward operates 36 hospitals in the United States and the country of Malta that regularly receive top awards for quality and safety. The company employs approximately 42,000 health care professionals. The Steward network includes multiple urgent care centers and skilled nursing facilities, substantial behavioral health services, over 7,900 beds under management, and approximately 2.2 million full risk covered lives through the company's managed care and health insurance services.

The Steward Health Care Network includes 5,000 physicians across 800 communities who help to provide more than 12 million patient encounters per year. Steward Medical Group, the company's employed physician group, provides more than six million patient encounters per year. The Steward Hospital Group operates hospitals in Malta and nine states across the U.S., including Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Utah.