For Immediate Release

OVERLOOK HOSPITAL NAMES NEW CHIEF NURSING OFFICER
Mary Patricia Sullivan, RN, MSN, CNS, takes the helm

Summit, NJ, May 21, 2007 - Mary Patricia Sullivan, RN, MSN, CNS, joins Atlantic Health as Overlook Hospital’s new Chief Nursing Officer, effective today. Sullivan was chosen following a nationwide search that spanned several months and produced a field of highly-qualified candidates. Years of experience and unique credentials made Ms. Sullivan the clear choice for the Chief Nursing Officer position. Ms. Sullivan will be responsible for 515 full-time, 159 part-time, and 208 per diem nurses at Overlook.

A seasoned healthcare executive, Ms. Sullivan brings an impressive background to Atlantic Health, including vast experience in all areas of nursing practice, as well as infection control, family-centered care, research, education and training, Magnet education and implementation of centers of excellence. From her early days as a staff nurse in the birth rooms of the University of Chicago, Lying-In Hospital and Clinics, Ms. Sullivan has risen through the ranks of clinical and hospital administration at a number of institutions, including Prince George’s General Hospital in Cheverly, MD, and Clara Maas Medical Center in Belleville, NJ.

Ms. Sullivan comes to Overlook Hospital from Kimball Medical Center in Lakewood, NJ, where she served as Vice President of Patient Care Services for the last four years. Before that, the Cranford resident was Director of Nursing, Patient Care Services at Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center in Paterson for six years. During her tenure at these two hospitals Ms. Sullivan made significant contributions, including achieving and maintaining ANCC Magnet re-designation for excellence in nursing services, streamlining and enhancing unit-based resource utilization programs, and implementing Report Cards for Nursing to monitor the balance between fiscal responsibility and quality care.

“We are making significant progress in achieving our cornerstone goals of providing clinically excellent care, differentiated service and unparalleled patient safety,” said Alan Lieber, Chief Operating Officer for Overlook. “Key to sustaining that process is having an outstanding chief nursing officer who can inspire our nurses, partner with physicians, balance financial and service demands and be a leader in the organization. Mary Pat is knowledgeable and is a problem-solver. Her well-rounded experience, which includes consulting with facilities to assist them in becoming Magnet hospitals, will greatly benefit Overlook Hospital and Atlantic Health.”

“I want to take this opportunity to thank Kathie Oerfradi and Sharon Kelly, who served as co-CNOs in the interim and the entire patient care management team, who did a great job moving the organization forward during the recruitment process,” Lieber added.

(more)
Ms. Sullivan earned two bachelor’s degrees – one in sociology and one in psychology – from New England College in Henniker, NH, before receiving her BS in nursing from Rhode Island College. She received a Masters of Science in Nursing from Loyola University of Chicago. Her work has been published in Nursing Administration Quarterly.

Through her career, Ms. Sullivan has served as Adjunct Faculty for Seton Hall University in New Jersey and Prince George’s Community college in Maryland, and has sat on many professional boards. She was also the Illinois Section Vice President of The Association of Women’s Health, Obstetrics and Neonatal Nurses.

For more information about Atlantic Health’s Overlook Hospital and services offered, including physician referrals, please call 1-800-247-9580 or visit atlantichealth.org.

Part of Atlantic Health, atlantichealth.org, Overlook Hospital is a 504-bed not-for-profit community teaching hospital located in Summit, NJ with more than 1,100 attending physicians. Overlook provides adult and pediatric emergency care, with specialties in emergency cardiac angioplasty and stroke response. Overlook’s Neuroscience Institute is the State’s leader in stroke and brain tumor treatments as the sole provider of the revolutionary Merci® Retriever and CyberKnife®. Overlook Hospital has a designated Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence, a Minimally Invasive Surgery Program, and comprehensive Cancer Center. Other areas of expertise include a Concussion Center, Epilepsy Center, and Brain Tumor Center. The hospital offers state-of-the-art maternity and baby services, with private, customized care and a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit staffed with the largest pediatric surgery group in New Jersey. Overlook Hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO).

# # #