ACTION Registry®-GWTG™ (ARG) is risk-adjusted, outcomes-based, quality improvement program that focuses exclusively on high-risk STEMI/NSTEMI patients. It helps hospitals apply ACC/AHA Clinical Guideline recommendations in their facilities, and provides invaluable tools to assist them in achieving their goal of quality improvement. Participating in this program helps hospitals improve their adherence to ACC/AHA Clinical Guideline recommendations as they satisfy the data collection and reporting requirement of regulatory and contracting organizations. The registry’s real-time quarterly reports will support efforts to reduce procedural complications, identify areas of excellence and opportunities for improvement, and document the results of QI efforts.

**Top 10 Reasons to Participate in ACTION Registry®-GWTG™:**

1. **Value:** There is only one national heart attack registry in the U.S., the joint American College of Cardiology and American Heart Association ACTION Registry®-GWTG™. The registry guides treatment practices nation-wide. AHA subsidizes the cost to hospitals in order to make the data and reports affordable for hospitals (approximately $2900 per year). This registry costs thousands of dollars less than most other national registries.

2. **Benchmarking:** With just under 1000 hospitals participating nationwide, there is not a more robust opportunity for benchmarking hospital, system, region or state performance.

3. **Quality Improvement:** The best way to drive quality and decrease mortality and readmission rates for heart attack patients is to review data regularly for gaps and utilize the information for process improvement. NCDR reports include all heart attack patients (STEMI and NSTEMI). STEMI specific Mission: Lifeline reports land in the registry web portal quarterly. Some reports are produced in power point format to facilitate ease of use by hospital staff for multidisciplinary STEMI meetings and cardiology section meetings. AHA Mission: Lifeline staff is available to hospital teams at no cost to assist with report evaluation and process improvement.

4. **Recognition:** The AHA Mission: Lifeline Hospital Recognition program and the American College of Cardiology NCDR Hospital Recognition programs both use ACTION Registry®-GWTG™ as the backbone of their award programs, utilizing the quality benchmarks and registry data to award recognition. AHA provides Mission: Lifeline Recognition, marketing/press kit/icons, and listing in US News & World Report to eligible hospitals free of charge. The American College of Cardiology also provides recognition free of charge, and includes a certificate and icons that can be used by the hospital to promote quality work.

5. **Chest Pain Center Accreditation:** The Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care Services strongly recommends participation in ACTION Registry®-GWTG™ and waives the mid-cycle data submission requirement for ARG participating hospitals. This alone saves hours of staff time for those involved with pursuing SCPC Accreditation.

6. **Mission: Lifeline Accreditation:** Hospitals are only eligible for the new AHA/SCPC Heart Attack Receiving Center Accreditation if they first meet quality benchmarks for STEMI care by achieving AHA Mission: Lifeline Recognition through ACTION Registry®-GWTG™.
7. **Physicians**: Participation in the national registry is a Cardiologist satisfier. Much of the time, the request for participation originates with Interventional Cardiology.

8. **EMS**: AHA Mission: Lifeline participation is important to EMS providers in your community. Mission: Lifeline benchmarks and recognition are only met when a hospital partners with its community emergency medical service providers to ensure that processes are in place to expedite care for patients with STEMI. EMS providers will be eligible for their own AHA Mission: Lifeline Recognition Award in Spring 2014. In order to achieve recognition, they need to work closely with hospital partners to meet the time to treatment goals. In some regions, EMS will not utilize hospitals that are not participating in regional Mission: Lifeline efforts.

9. **Community Perception**: Once a hospital has achieved AHA Mission: Lifeline Heart Attack Receiving Center Accreditation through SCPC, they are able to use the AHA Heart Checkmark along with their hospital logo and marketing materials to provide assurance to their community that they are meeting all of the quality heart attack benchmarks and have everything in place to be able to provide quality STEMI care.

10. **Core Measures**: Core Measures are crucial, but represent a limited data set. Core Measures does not include heart attack system metrics, such as first medical contact with EMS and pre-hospital treatment that are included in the ACTION Registry®-GWTG™ data. Hospitals wishing to improve system performance, reduce readmissions and improve outcomes must look beyond core measures.

    To start participating in the ACTION Registry-GWTG enroll now.