**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE**

**CONTACT:
Organization/Practice PR contact name/phone, email**

**[Name of your organization/practice] earns national recognition for efforts to improve stroke treatment**

*The American Heart Association presents Get With The Guidelines-Stroke [SELECT APPROPRIATE LEVEL: GoldPlus/Gold/SilverPlus/Silver/Bronze/Participating] award for commitment to prioritizing quality care for stroke patients*

**CITY, STATE**— (Name of organization/practice) has received the American Heart Association’s *[SELECT APPROPRIATE LEVEL: GoldPlus/Gold/SilverPlus/Silver/Bronze/Participating]* Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Quality Achievement Award for their commitment to ensuring stroke patients receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines.

Stroke is the No. 5 cause of death and a leading cause of adult disability in the U.S. On average, someone in the U.S. suffers a stroke every 40 seconds, and nearly 795,000 people suffer a new or recurrent stroke each year. Early stroke detection and treatment are key to improving survival, minimizing disability and speeding recovery times.

Get With The Guidelines-Stroke was developed to assist healthcare professionals to provide the most up-to-date, research-based guidelines for treating stroke patients.

“(HOSPITAL NAME) is honored to be recognized by the American Heart Association for our dedication to helping our patients have the best possible chance of survival and after a stroke,” said (Hospital Spokesperson). “Get With The Guidelines-Stroke makes it easier for our teams to put proven knowledge and guidelines to work on a daily basis to improve outcomes for stroke patients.”

Each year program participants apply for the award recognition by demonstrating how their organization has committed to providing quality care for stroke patients. In addition to following treatment guidelines, participants also provide education to patients to help them manage their health and rehabilitation once at home.

“We are pleased to recognize (**HOSPITAL NAME**) for their commitment to stroke care,” said Lee H. Schwamm, M.D., national member and past chairperson of the Quality Oversight Committee for the American Heart Association and neurologist, vice president of telehealth for Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts. “Research has shown that hospitals adhering to clinical measures through the Get With The Guidelines quality improvement initiative can often see fewer readmissions and lower mortality rates.”

**NOTE: INSERT HIGHLIGHTED SECTION BELOW IF HOSPITAL RECEIVED TARGET: STROKE AWARD**

(**HOSPITAL NAME**) also received the Association’s (select correct award: Target: StrokeSM Honor Roll/Target: StrokeSM Elite/Target: StrokeSM Elite Plus) *Therapy*) award. To qualify for this recognition, hospitals must meet quality measures developed to reduce the time between the patient’s arrival at the hospital and treatment with the clot-buster tissue plasminogen activator, or [tPA](http://www.strokeassociation.org/STROKEORG/AboutStroke/Treatment/Stroke-Treatments_UCM_310892_Article.jsp), the only drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat [ischemic stroke](http://www.strokeassociation.org/STROKEORG/AboutStroke/TypesofStroke/Types-of-Stroke_UCM_308531_SubHomePage.jsp).

**NOTE: INSERT HIGHLIGHTED SECTION BELOW IF HOSPITAL RECEIVED TARGET: STROKE HONOR ROLL ADVANCED THERAPY AWARD**

(**HOSPITAL NAME**) also received the Association’s Target: StrokeSM Honor Roll Advanced Therapy award. For this award, hospitals successfully treated at least 50% of qualified stroke patients within 90 minutes of arriving directly to their facility and within 60 minutes of arriving by EMS transport.

**NOTE: INSERT HIGHLIGHTED SECTION BELOW IF HOSPITAL RECEIVED TARGET: TYPE 2 DIABETES HONOR ROLL™ AWARD**

Additionally, (**HOSPITAL NAME**) received the Association’s (select correct award: Target: Type 2 Honor Roll) award. To qualify for this recognition, hospitals must meet quality measures developed with more than 90% of compliance for 12 consecutive months for the “Overall Diabetes Cardiovascular Initiative Composite Score.”

**(NOTE: Use the next paragraph if appropriate for your facility)**

**HOSPITAL NAME)** also met specific scientific guidelines as a Primary Stroke Center or as a Comprehensive Stroke Center, featuring a comprehensive system for rapid diagnosis and treatment of stroke patients admitted to the emergency department.

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***About [Hospital Name]:***

**[Insert Hospital boiler plate]**

***About Get With The Guidelines®***

Get With The Guidelines® is the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association’s hospital-based quality improvement program that provides hospitals with tools and resources to increase adherence to the latest research-based guidelines. Developed with the goal of saving lives and hastening recovery, Get With The Guidelines has touched the lives of more than 9 million patients since 2001. For more information, visit [heart.org](http://www.heart.org)/quality.

***ADDITIONAL RESOURCES***

**Social Media Posts**

**Twitter**

We’re proud to achieve recognition by @American\_Heart with a <GWTG award received>! #GetWithTheGuidelines2021

Patient care is our No. 1 priority. **[Hospital Name]** has received a <GWTG award received>. #GetWithTheGuidelines2021

**Facebook**

We are proud to achieve recognition by the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association for following the latest research-based standards for <Type of care> with a Get With The Guidelines Achievement Award. Find out more at <http://bit.ly/1qoUMbJ>

**[Hospital Name]** has earned a Get With The Guidelines Achievement Award which demonstrates adherence to clinical guidelines to support better outcomes for stroke patients. Learn more at <http://bit.ly/1qoUMbJ>

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