

Primary Stroke Care Programs Awarded Certification From Joint Commission

Consistent, quality stroke care available at all seven acute care hospitals.



All seven of the Resurrection Health Care (RHC) acute care hospitals have earned the **Gold Seal of Approval™** from **The Joint Commission** for Advanced Disease-Specific Certification as Primary Stroke Centers. RHC was awarded these distinctions after the Joint Commission conducted daylong on-site reviews of each RHC acute care stroke program in May.

"Resurrection demonstrated that its stroke care programs follow national standards and guidelines that can significantly improve outcomes for stroke patients," said Jean E. Range, M.D., R.N., C.P.H.Q., Executive Director, Disease-Specific Care Certification, Joint Commission.

With each of RHC's acute care hospitals earning this achievement, Chicagoland residents now have access to consistent, high-quality stroke care nearby.

"We're proud to achieve this distinction," said Anita Halvorsen, System Director, Neuroscience Service Line, Resurrection Health

Care. "Joint Commission Primary Stroke Center Certification recognizes our commitment to providing outstanding care to our patients and communities. A patient anywhere in the Chicagoland area with stroke signs and symptoms can be assessed and treated efficiently and effectively at any RHC hospital - with the same proven, evidence-based medical practices in stroke care."

Halvorsen added that the achievement of Joint Commission certification was made possible through the dedication and collaboration of [staff, physicians and leadership throughout the System](#).

Each year, approximately 795,000 people in the United States experience a new or recurrent stroke -- the third leading cause of death in the United States. With this high statistic and need for urgent treatment, it is important for our communities to have access to certified Primary Stroke Centers that offer stroke-focused physician assessments, necessary testing and the most advanced treatments, including clot-busting medications and neurointerventional procedures that reduce brain damage that occurs during a stroke.

For more information about the warning signs of stroke and when to call 911, visit the [stroke section of the RHC website](#).