

<u>PRESS RELEASE</u>

For Immediate Release

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Salina Regional Health Center is nationally recognized for its commitment to providing high-quality stroke care

SALINA, KANSAS – July, 10, 2023 – Salina Regional Health Center has received three American Heart Association quality achievement awards for its commitment to ensuring stroke patients receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines, ultimately leading to more lives saved and reduced disability. The hospital received the Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Gold Plus Award, Target: Stroke Elite Plus Honor Roll, and Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll.

Stroke is the No. 5 cause of death and a leading cause of disability in the U.S.A stroke occurs when a blood vessel that carries oxygen and nutrients to the brain is either blocked by a clot or bursts. When that happens, part of the brain cannot get the blood and oxygen it needs, so brain cells die. Early stroke detection and treatment are key to improving survival, minimizing disability and accelerating recovery times.

Get With The Guidelines puts the expertise of the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association to work for hospitals nationwide, helping ensure patient care is aligned with the latest evidence- and research-based guidelines. Get With The Guidelines - Stroke is an in-hospital program for improving stroke care by promoting consistent adherence to these guidelines, which can minimize the long-term effects of a stroke and even prevent death.

"Salina Regional Health Center is committed to improving patient care by adhering to the latest treatment guidelines," Doug Davis, M.D., Stroke Medical Director. "Get With The Guidelines makes it easier for our teams to put proven knowledge and guidelines to work on a daily basis, which studies show can help patients recover better. The end goal is to ensure more people in Salina and surrounding areas can experience longer, healthier lives."

Each year, program participants qualify for the award by demonstrating how their organization has committed to providing quality care for stroke patients. In addition to following treatment guidelines, Get With The Guidelines participants also educate patients to help them manage their health and recovery at home.

Salina Regional Health Center received the American Heart Association's Target: StrokesM Elite Plus Honor Roll for meeting specific criteria that reduces the time between an eligible patient's arrival at the hospital and treatment with the clot-buster Tenecteplase.

In addition, Salina Regional Health Center received the American Heart Association's Target: Type 2 Honor Roll award for meeting the requirements that aims to ensure patients with Type 2 diabetes, who might be at higher risk for complications, receive the most up-to-date, evidence-based care when hospitalized due to stroke.

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