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Redlands Community Hospital Earns Thrombectomy-Capable Stroke Center Certification

REDLANDS, CA. – Feb. 13, 2020 – Redlands Community Hospital (RCH) has earned Thrombectomy-Capable Stroke Center (TSC) certification from The Joint Commission, in collaboration with the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association (AHA/ASA). This certification signifies the hospital meets rigorous and exacting standards for performing mechanical Endovascular Thrombectomy (EVT), a specialized surgical procedure used to remove a blood clot from the brain during an ischemic stroke.

“This award is a testament to the stroke team’s relentless focus on strengthening our neurointerventional program at the hospital and brings advanced live-saving stroke care to community,” said Dr. Vladimir Cortez, neurosurgeon at Redlands Community Hospital. “We are pleased to continue providing this excellent standard of care our patients have come to expect.”

Redlands Community Hospital was evaluated during a two-way onsite review, for compliance with the TSC requirements that were developed with input from experts on comprehensive stroke treatment and stroke program management.

To be eligible for the certification, the hospital was required to meet strict guidelines that include performing EVT on a minimum of 15 patients in the past year, or 30 patients in the past two years, and the capability to perform EVT around the clock, seven days a week. The hospital’s primary neuro-interventionists—the physicians who routinely perform emergency mechanical thrombectomy—also must meet the highest standards of subspecialty training.

Redlands Community Hospital has been certified by The Joint Commission as an Advanced Primary Stroke Center since 2011 and awarded by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association’s Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award for four years. The recognition demonstrates Redlands Community



Hospital's commitment to delivering advanced life-saving stroke treatments to patients quickly and safely. The hospital continues to strive for excellence and these acknowledgements further validate the team's hard work.

"The Joint Commission congratulates Redlands Community Hospital on this significant achievement which makes it a preferred location for transporting patients with suspected ischemic stroke," said David Baker, MD, MPH, FACP, executive vice president, Division of Health Care Quality Evaluation, The Joint Commission. "Multiple studies have proven EVT treatment to be effective in saving lives and lowering disability from stroke."

"With the recent advances in endovascular therapies for acute ischemic stroke, it's important to recognize hospitals which can perform this critical intervention safely and effectively and we commend Redlands Community Hospital, on this designation," said Edward C. Jauch, MD, chair of the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Hospital Accreditation Stroke Subcommittee. "The TSC certification helps pre-hospital providers better understand hospital stroke capabilities and assist in regional EMS triage of stroke patients so that the patient gets to the right hospital for the right treatment."

Stroke is the fifth leading cause of death in the United States and more than 87 percent of cases are ischemic strokes caused by a clot that cuts off blood flow to a part of the brain. These types of strokes are largely treatable if a patient gets to a hospital that can provide the right treatment in time.

To learn more about the Redlands Community Hospital stroke program, visit:

<https://www.redlandshospital.org/services/stroke-program/>

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About Redlands Community Hospital

Redlands Community Hospital is a 229-bed, independent not-for-profit, stand-alone facility located in Southern California.

About The Joint Commission

Founded in 1951, The Joint Commission seeks to continuously improve health care for the public, in collaboration with other stakeholders, by evaluating health care organizations and inspiring them to excel in providing safe and effective care of the highest quality and value. The Joint Commission accredits and certifies more than 21,000



health care organizations and programs in the United States. An independent, nonprofit organization, The Joint Commission is the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. Learn more about The Joint Commission at www.jointcommission.org.

About The American Heart Association/American Stroke Association

The American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association are devoted to saving people from heart disease and stroke – the two leading causes of death in the world. We team with millions of volunteers to fund innovative research, fight for stronger public health policies, and provide lifesaving tools and information to prevent and treat these diseases. The Dallas-based American Heart Association is the nation's oldest and largest voluntary organization dedicated to fighting heart disease and stroke. The American Stroke Association is a division of the American Heart Association. To learn more or to get involved, call 1-800-AHA-USA1, visit heart.org or call any of our offices around the country.