

## **Good Samaritan Hospital-Dayton Receives American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines Bronze Performance Achievement Award**

DAYTON, November 19, 2009 -- Good Samaritan Hospital has received the American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines<sup>SM</sup>-Stroke (GWTG-Stroke) Bronze Performance Achievement Award. The award recognizes Good Samaritan's commitment and success in implementing a higher standard of stroke care by ensuring that stroke patients receive treatment according to nationally accepted standards and recommendations.

"With a stroke, time lost is brain lost, and the GWTG-Stroke Bronze Performance Achievement Award addresses the important element of time," said Mark Shaker, president and CEO of Good Samaritan Hospital. "Good Samaritan has developed a comprehensive system for rapid diagnosis and treatment of stroke patients admitted to the emergency department. This includes always being equipped to provide brain imaging scans, having neurologists available to conduct patient evaluations and using clot-busting medications when appropriate."

To receive the GWTG-Stroke Bronze Performance Achievement Award, Good Samaritan Hospital consistently followed the treatment guidelines in the GWTG-Stroke program for 90 days. These include aggressive use of medications like tPA, antithrombotics, anticoagulation therapy, DVT prophylaxis, cholesterol reducing drugs, and smoking cessation. The 90-day evaluation period is the first in an ongoing self-evaluation by the hospital to continually reach the 85 percent compliance level needed to sustain this award.

"The American Stroke Association commends Good Samaritan Hospital for its success in implementing standards of care and protocols," said Lee H. Schwamm, M.D., national Get With The Guidelines Steering Committee Member and director of the acute stroke services at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. "The full implementation of acute care and secondary prevention recommendations and guidelines is a critical step in saving the lives and improving outcomes of stroke patients."

Good Samaritan Hospital ([www.goodsamdayton.org](http://www.goodsamdayton.org)) is a leading provider of innovative health-care services in Dayton, Ohio. The 600-bed hospital is a full-service teaching facility that delivers best-in-care cardiovascular, cancer, and orthopedic services, as well as advanced diagnostics and women's health services. It delivers the latest in outpatient treatment, rehabilitation, diagnostics and other services through its Good Samaritan North Health Center and Good Samaritan Health Center – Huber Heights locations, and advanced cardiovascular care at Dayton Heart & Vascular Hospital at Good Samaritan. The hospital has been awarded seven gold seal certifications from the Joint Commission – more than any hospital in Ohio – for its outstanding programs, including for heart failure, heart attack, coronary artery bypass surgery, breast cancer, total hip and knee replacement, and stroke care. Good Samaritan received Magnet designation earlier this year, placing it among top five percent of hospitals nationwide for excellence in nursing services, and the hospital recently was ranked by HealthGrades as number one in the state for vascular surgery (2010) and number one in Dayton for joint replacement surgery (2009 & 2010). In addition, *U.S. News & World Report* named Good Samaritan Hospital as one of America's Best Hospitals in Respiratory Disorders Care – the only Dayton-area hospital to receive a 2009-2010 ranking from the publication. These recognitions reflect the strength and talent of its staff of 600 physicians and 3,000 employees who are committed to excellence and to building a healthier community. Good Samaritan Hospital, along with Miami Valley Hospital, Atrium Medical Center and Upper Valley Medical Center, is a member of the Premier Health Partners system.

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