



NEWS RELEASE

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HOFFMAN HEART AND VASCULAR INSTITUTE RECEIVES GOLD AWARD

Higher Standard of Care Recognized

(HARTFORD, Conn.) -- The Hoffman Heart and Vascular Institute at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center was one of only 135 hospitals nationwide to recently receive the American College of Cardiology Foundation NCDR ACTION Registry-GWTG *Gold Performance Achievement Award* for 2010.

The award recognizes Saint Francis' commitment in implementing a higher standard of care for heart attack patients, and signifies that the Hospital has reached an aggressive goal of treating coronary artery disease patients with 85 percent compliance to core standard levels of care outlined by the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association clinical guidelines and recommendations.

To receive the ACTION Registry-GWTG Gold Performance Award, Saint Francis consistently followed the treatment guidelines for 24 consecutive months. These include use of medications like cholesterol-lowering drugs, beta-blockers, ACE inhibitors, aspirin, and anticoagulants in the Hospital.

Created by the merger of the American College of Cardiology Foundation NCDR ACTION Registry® and the American Heart Association's *Get With the Guidelines-CAD*

program, ACTION Registry-GWTG combines the best practices of both programs into a single, unified national registry. The new registry joins the robust data collection and quality reporting features of the ACTION Registry with the collaborative models, unique tools, and quality improvement techniques of the GWTG-CAD program. With the collective strengths of these two programs, ACTION Registry-GWTG empowers healthcare provider teams to consistently treat heart attack patients according to the most current, science-based guidelines, and establishes a national standard for understanding and improving the quality, safety, and outcomes for patients with coronary artery disease.

Founded in 1897, Saint Francis is a major teaching hospital licensed for 617 acute inpatient beds and 65 bassinets. It is the largest Catholic hospital in New England. For more information on Saint Francis, go to www.stfranciscare.com.