



For Immediate Release
June 13, 2013

Contact: Michele Sharp
Director of Communications and Public Affairs
(203) 317-1098
Sharp@chime.org

Connecticut Hospital Association to Recognize Lawrence + Memorial Hospital's Lisa Bedard, APRN-BC, ANVP, CNRN, as a 2013 Healthcare Hero

WALLINGFORD – At its 95th Annual Meeting on June 25, the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) will recognize Lisa Bedard, APRN-BC, ANVP, CNRN, Manager, L+M Stroke Program, Lawrence + Memorial Hospital as a 2013 Healthcare Hero. Ms. Bedard was nominated for this award by Lauren Williams and Max Gorski.

Ms. Bedard joined the L+M team in 2006 and, over the past seven years, has worked tirelessly to bring an award-winning stroke program to Southeastern Connecticut. In 2006, she organized a Brain Attack Team “Code BAT” in response to patients presenting at L+M with symptoms of a stroke. This, combined with other initiatives developed under her leadership, led L+M to earn Primary Stroke Center certification from The Joint Commission and The Department of Public Health. Through her ongoing efforts, L+M has successfully maintained this certification. Additionally, Ms. Bedard also has been responsible for L+M having been awarded the highly prestigious Gold Plus Award from the American Heart and Stroke Association’s *Get With The Guidelines* program, which recognizes hospitals for achieving 85 percent or higher adherence with performance measures over a 12-month period.

The consummate educator, Lisa has developed numerous educational materials for her healthcare colleagues and the public. She is a proponent of educating people about the signs and symptoms of stroke and preventive measures that individuals can take to reduce risk. Often, she is found at staff meetings or at a patient’s bedside sharing her wealth of knowledge about strokes. When not in her office, she is out in the community, meeting with groups from elementary school students to residents of assisted living facilities, spreading her message about how to recognize a stroke.

Lisa and her colleague Daniel Moalli, MD, Medical Director for Neurology, were instrumental in bringing the Yale-New Haven Hospital TeleStroke program to L+M. This service provides immediate access to neurological specialists when a patient presents to the L+M emergency department with symptoms of a stroke. This has resulted in lives saved.

A stroke survivor herself, Lisa has a commitment to the prevention and care of stroke that is unmatched. She is highly passionate about her work, which has become a 24/7 endeavor. Lisa’s personal experience combined with her depth of knowledge fuels the passion that keeps her on this quest.

CHA’s Healthcare Heroes award was developed in 2002 to celebrate the invaluable contributions of healthcare workers, both to their field and to the community at large. Now in its 12th year, the presentation of the Healthcare Heroes awards has become a highlight of CHA’s Annual Meeting.



###

About CHA

The Connecticut Hospital Association has been dedicated to serving Connecticut's hospitals since 1919. Through state and federal advocacy, CHA represents the interests of Connecticut's hospitals on key healthcare issues in the areas of quality and patient safety, access and coverage, workforce, community health, diversity, and hospital reimbursement.