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**JOHNSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AWARDED ADVANCED CERTIFICATION  
FOR ACUTE STROKE CARE**

STAFFORD SPRINGS, Conn. (Jan. 21, 2018) Johnson Memorial Hospital has earned Advanced Disease-Specific Care Certification for Acute Stroke Ready Hospital by the Joint Commission and the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association. The certification recognizes hospitals equipped to treat stroke patients with timely, evidence-based care prior to transferring them to a Primary or Comprehensive Stroke Center.

In order to achieve the accreditation, Johnson Memorial underwent a rigorous onsite review to assess its compliance with the Joint Commission's Advanced Disease-Specific Care certification requirements, including:

- A dedicated stroke-focused program
- Staffing by qualified medical professionals trained in stroke care
- Collaboration with local emergency management agencies
- 24/7 ability to perform rapid diagnostic and laboratory testing
- Ability to administer intravenous clot-busting medications to eligible patients
- Availability of telemedicine technology

"We are delighted to receive Acute Stroke Ready Hospital Certification from the Joint Commission and the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association," said Stu Rosenberg, president, Johnson Memorial Hospital. "This certification demonstrates our commitment to providing a higher standard of service to stroke patients, while also addressing the gap in access to acute stroke services."

According to the American Stroke Association, nearly half of the population in the United States live 60 miles or more from a Primary Stroke Center or Comprehensive Stroke Center, but argue if patients who experience an acute ischemic stroke can get treated with clot-busting medications in a more timely manner, more lives would be saved and more patients would have improved outcomes.

Stroke is the number five cause of death and a leading cause of adult disability in the United States, according to the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association. On average, someone suffers a stroke every 40 seconds; someone dies of a stroke every four minutes; and 795,000 people suffer a new or recurrent stroke each year.

Established in 2015, Acute Stroke Ready Hospital Certification is awarded for a two-year period to Joint Commission-accredited hospitals and critical access hospitals.

### **About Johnson Memorial Hospital**

Johnson Memorial Hospital and Home & Community Health Services provide a continuum of health care services to those living and working in north central Connecticut and western Massachusetts. In 2016, Johnson Memorial Hospital and Home & Community Health Services became part of Trinity Health Of New England, an integrated health care delivery system that is a member of Trinity Health, Livonia, Michigan, one of the largest multi-institutional Catholic health care delivery systems in the nation serving communities in 22 states. The 92-bed hospital and home health and hospice agency have been anchor institutions in north central Connecticut for more than 100 years. Visit [jmmc.org](http://jmmc.org) for more information and follow us on Facebook @JohnsonMemorialHospCT and Twitter @JohnsonMemorial