



For Immediate Release

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### **WOMEN'S CHOICE AWARD: SAINT FRANCIS NAMED AMONG AMERICA'S "BEST" BREAST CENTERS**

*Selection of Saint Francis on list of "Best Hospitals for Breast Centers" is based on women's preferences, recommendation rating and clinical excellence*

(Hartford, CT, February 19, 2014) – Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center has received the *Women's Choice Award* from *WomenCertified*®, distinguishing it as one America's *Best Breast Centers* for 2014.

Saint Francis is one of less than 300 hospitals nationally recognized by *WomenCertified* in this category and the sole Connecticut hospital to earn this distinction for its breast health center.

The *Women's Choice Award* is a seal reserved for hospitals who partner with *WomenCertified* in its mission to support women across America. The distinction is the only award that identifies the country's best healthcare institutions based on robust criteria that consider female patient satisfaction, clinical excellence, and what women say they want from a hospital, including quality physician communications, responsiveness of nurses and support staff, cleanliness and trusted referrals from other women.

Women make or influence more than 90 percent of healthcare decisions for themselves and their families, according to a study published by the American Academy of Family Physicians.

"We take great pride in the exceptional services we provide at our *Breast Health Center* and this national recognition is testament to the care we offer our patients and their families," states John Rodis, M.D., Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer and Chief Physician Executive.

"We recognize that every woman is unique, and our care is tailored to each patient's individual needs and concerns," adds Kim Caprio, M.D., Breast Surgeon. "Our team is dedicated to treating the total woman – mind, body and spirit. We provide the most sophisticated screening technologies coupled with advice about lifestyle changes that can help women stay healthy."

In the past two years, 80% of insured women age 50-64 reported receiving a mammogram, according to The Centers of Disease Control and Prevention.

Recipients of the *WomenCertified Inc., Best Breast Centers* have met the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers standards from the American College of Surgeons. Saint Francis also carries the seal of the American College of Radiologists as a Breast Imaging

Center of Excellence. *WomenCertified* also noted that Saint Francis scores well on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services patient satisfaction measures.

### **About Saint Francis Care**

Saint Francis *Care* is an integrated healthcare delivery system established by Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, an anchor institution in north central Connecticut since 1897. Licensed for 617 beds and 65 bassinets, it is a major teaching hospital and the largest Catholic hospital in New England. Other major entities of Saint Francis *Care* include The Mount Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital, the Connecticut Joint Replacement Institute, the Hoffman Heart and Vascular Institute of Connecticut, the Saint Francis/Mount Sinai Regional Cancer Center, the Joyce D. and Andrew J. Mandell Center for Comprehensive Multiple Sclerosis Care and Neuroscience Research, and Saint Francis Health*Care* Partners. Johnson Memorial Medical Center, parent organization of Johnson Memorial Hospital, Evergreen Health Care Center, and Home and Community Health Services is also a Saint Francis *Care* Partner. Saint Francis *Care*'s services are supported by a network of seven major Access Centers and eight additional medical office centers sited throughout the region. For more information, visit [www.stfranciscare.com](http://www.stfranciscare.com).