

Physician Forum

STS. MARY AND ELIZABETH HOSPITAL RECEIVES PRIMARY STROKE CENTER CERTIFICATION

Excellence Above All

Sts. Mary and Elizabeth Hospital is now the second hospital in the Jewish Hospital & St. Mary's HealthCare organization to receive the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organization (JCAHO) certification as a primary stroke center. This makes the fourth hospital in Kentucky to receive this designation.

Sts. Mary and Elizabeth Hospital offers access to formally trained, expert stroke neurologists, and access to a wide-range of multidisciplinary services including: rapid triage for stroke patients, 24/7 availability of state-of-the-art neuroimaging, emergency neurosurgical coverage and a dedicated inpatient stroke unit all in a certified stroke center setting.

A stroke neurologist will be on call 24-hours-a-day and can be reached by calling the Sts. Mary and Elizabeth Hospital emergency department at (502) 361-6391. The neurologists on the stroke team are Darin A. Harden, M.D., Fred Seifer, M.D., James McKiernan, M.D., Hal Corwin, M.D., Gregory Pittman, M.D., Rebekah Woods, M.D. and Greg Smith, M.D.

Each year about 700,000 people experience a new or recurrent stroke, which is the nation's third leading cause of death. On average, someone suffers a stroke ever 45 second and someone dies of a stroke every 3.1 minutes.

"We are proud to announce that Sts. Mary and Elizabeth Hospital has demonstrated that its stroke care program follows national standards and guidelines that can significantly improve outcomes for our stroke patients," said Debbie Conder, nurse manager at Sts. Mary and Elizabeth Hospital.

Jewish Hospital & St. Mary's HealthCare - providing expert-level stroke treatment to the Kentuckiana area.

Because fast, expert assessment and treatment can make an enormous difference in a stroke (and in recovery from one), Jewish Hospital & St. Mary's HealthCare – offers specialized stroke care that matches our regional neurological leadership with the instant acute care a stroke requires.

Jewish Hospital's Emergency Stroke Center opened in 1996 under the leadership of Lynn Simon, M.D., and it now has two nationally recognized neurology specialists, James M. Gebel, Jr., M.D., and Ulises L. Nobo, M.D. Dr. Gebel came to the center from the Stroke Institute at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, and Dr. Nobo from the stroke center at Indiana University.

Sts. Mary and Elizabeth Hospital began its stroke program in January of 2000, under the direction of Greg Smith, M.D., who assumed leadership of the program in 2001.

Combined with the region's foremost rehabilitation hospital, Frazier Rehab Institute, Neuroscience Institute and VNA Nazareth Home Care therapy program for stroke patients, the Jewish Hospital & St. Mary's HealthCare stroke programs offer expert-level, comprehensive care for stroke and TIA patients from the moment they arrive at the emergency room door until the moment they arrive at their own front door.

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