

Physician Forum

JEWISH HOSPITAL AND ST. MARY'S HEALTHCARE EARNS CHEST PAIN CENTER ACCREDITATION

*First in area to earn national accreditation for its systemwide, protocol-driven approach
to cardiac care and patient management*

The Emergency Departments of Jewish Hospital, Jewish Hospital Medical Center East, Jewish Hospital Shelbyville and Sts. Mary & Elizabeth Hospital have earned Chest Pain Center Accreditation from the Society of Chest Pain Centers, a non-profit, international organization that promotes protocol-based medicine for patients with acute coronary syndromes and heart failure.

Jewish Hospital and St. Mary's HealthCare is the first organization in the area to receive Chest Pain Center Accreditation for four systemwide Emergency Departments. In addition, Jewish Hospital Medical Center East is the first freestanding Emergency Department in the U.S. to be granted such accreditation.

For patients and health care providers, the accreditation reaffirms Jewish Hospital and St. Mary's commitment to a protocol-driven, systematic approach to cardiac care and patient management. It's an integrated approach to emergency care that allows physicians to "reduce time to treatment" during the critical, early stages of an acute myocardial infarction – when treatments are most effective – and to better monitor patients when it is not clear whether they are having a coronary event. Such monitoring helps ensure that a patient is not released too early or needlessly admitted to the hospital.

Jewish Hospital and St. Mary's HealthCare earned national Chest Pain Center Accreditation by meeting or exceeding a wide range of quality-of-care measures and stringent criteria in eight key areas:

- Emergency Department integration with the area's emergency medical system to link the care processes for patients with acute coronary syndrome
- Emergency Department attack program to minimize delays in therapy (thrombolytics, nitrates,

- heparin, etc.) for an acute myocardial infarction
- Assessment of patients determined to have low to moderate risk for acute coronary syndrome
- Functional facility design to deliver optimal cardiac care
- Personnel, competencies and training
- Organizational structure and commitment to excellence
- Process improvement orientation
- Community outreach program

Chest Pain Center Accreditation Sets the Standard

Most hospitals in the U.S. have a Coronary Care Unit or a Chest Pain Center; however, these centers vary in form, coordination of skilled personnel and dedicated equipment. The national Chest Pain Center Accreditation recognizes Jewish Hospital and St. Mary's HealthCare's "systemwide approach to patient management" and its commitment to offering a full-spectrum, emergency cardiac care program, with rapid diagnosis and fast track treatment.

For more information

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