



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IN RECOGNITION OF WORLD STROKE DAY ON OCTOBER 29, HCA FLORIDA WEST HOSPITAL PROUD TO ANNOUNCE DESIGNATION OF COMPREHENSIVE STROKE CENTER CERTIFICATION

Pensacola, FL, October 22, 2022 — The World Stroke Organization has designated October 29, 2022 as World Stroke Day. When somebody has a stroke, every second that goes by is crucial. As brain tissue and millions of neurons begin to fade away, time could not be more precious.

In recognition of World Stroke Day, HCA Florida West Hospital is proud to announce that they have received certification from DNV GL Healthcare as a Comprehensive Stroke Center, a prestigious designation that reflects the highest level of competence for treatment of patients who have experienced a stroke. Scientific evidence shows that when a stroke occurs, immediate assessment and treatment will reduce the effects of stroke and lessen the chances of a permanent disability.



“We identify stroke patients quickly and begin appropriate treatment immediately because for patients, time is brain. Strokes do not have a particular time when they happen. The best treatment results are found at centers such as ours where the care team is ready to provide definitive care at any time of the day,” said **Juan Corona, M.D., neurosurgeon, with HCA Florida West Hospital.**



“With stroke care, you must have the best clinicians and resources, but also the ability to act organizationally with extreme efficiency because of the time-critical nature of these events,” said **Lincoln Jimenez M.D., neurosurgeon at HCA Florida West Hospital.** “Earning national accreditation through a program such as DNV shows our commitment to quality, process improvement and providing excellent healthcare. With this designation, patients suffering from all types of strokes such as large brain clots and hemorrhages, have immediate access to life saving care.”

The DNV GL - Healthcare Comprehensive Stroke Center Certification is based on standards set forth by the Brain Attack Coalition and the American Stroke Association, and affirms that the medical center addresses the full spectrum of stroke care – diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation and education – and establishes clear metrics to evaluate outcomes. The certification is for three years, but processes, documentation and outcomes will be reviewed annually to ensure that HCA Florida West Hospital continues to meet and exceed certification standards and nationally – identified guidelines.

“Achieving certification shows commitment to excellence,” says Patrick Horine, CEO of DNV GL - Healthcare. “And it helps demonstrate to your community that you are performing at the highest level.”



“We are committed to improving patient care by adhering to the latest treatment guidelines,” said **Joseph Cahill, M.D., neurologist at HCA Florida West Hospital.** “As the population in our community continues to grow, HCA Florida West Hospital is committed to providing high-level quality care to those we serve. This certification speaks to our team’s ongoing efforts to be there for our community.”

Comprehensive stroke centers are typically the largest and best-equipped hospitals that can treat any kind of stroke or stroke complication. In a growing number of states, comprehensive stroke center certification determines where a patient should be taken for the most appropriate care when a stroke occurs.

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About DNV GL Healthcare

DNV GL is a world-leading certification body that helps businesses assure the performance of their organizations, products, people, facilities and supply chains through certification, verification, assessment, and training services.

Within healthcare, DNV GL helps its customers achieve excellence by improving quality and patient safety through hospital accreditation, disease-specific certifications and quality management training.

The DNV GL operates in more than 100 countries. Our 16,000 professionals are dedicated to helping its customers make the world safer, smarter and greener. For more information about DNV GL - Healthcare, visit www.dnvglhealthcare.com.

About HCA Florida West Hospital

HCA Florida West Hospital, located in Pensacola, Florida is a full service acute care hospital that has proudly cared for Northwest Florida for more than 45 years. Our top priority is to exceed patient expectations with the highest quality and most compassionate team of healthcare professionals. Our fully accredited healthcare facility strives to provide state-of-the-art technologies and best practices in evidence-based care. Currently, our hospital campus includes the acute care hospital, an inpatient, CARF accredited rehabilitation facility and an Age Friendly designated mental health facility. In addition, we are also pleased to partner with the University of Central Florida to offer Graduate Medical Education Residency Programs.

The area's first Accredited Chest Pain Center and Breast Imaging Center of Excellence, West Florida Hospital is also the first hospital in the state of Florida to have earned Atrial Fibrillation with Electrophysiology Services Accreditation. In addition, West Florida Healthcare is an Advanced Primary Stroke Center and an accredited Comprehensive Stroke Center. Affiliated with HCA, the nation's leading provider of healthcare, HCA Florida West meets the community's healthcare needs in major services such as cardiology, cardiovascular surgery, oncology, orthopedics, pediatrics, robotic-assisted surgery, critical care, neurology/neurosurgery, emergency care, urology, behavioral health, gastroenterology, obstetrics, pulmonary, and rehabilitative medicine.

About HCA Healthcare North Florida Division

The HCA Healthcare North Florida Division is a comprehensive network of 14 hospitals, numerous outpatient surgery centers & imaging facilities, physician practices, medical education training programs and a complete continuum of specialized health programs and services that meet the healthcare needs of residents and businesses in the North Florida and Central Florida communities. HCA Healthcare North Florida physicians and employees continue to provide the quality foundation for delivering care to our patients safely, effectively and compassionately. Its hospitals are Joint Commission Accredited, with designations such as Accredited Chest Pain Centers, Primary Stroke Center Certification and four Level II Trauma Centers in Marion, Okaloosa, Osceola and Seminole county.

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