

West Jefferson Ranked Among the Top 10% in the Nation for Stroke Care

West Jefferson Achieves Healthgrades 2017 Stroke Care Excellence Award™



Board of Managers:

Harry L. "Chip" Cahill, III
Chairman

Frank C. Di Vincenti, M.D.
Vice-Chairman

James E. Cramond
Secretary-Treasurer

David F. Andignac
Barry H. Bordelon
Nancy R. Cassagne
Damon M. Dietrich, M.D.
Gregory C. Feirn
Timothy P. Kerner
William A. Lazaro, Jr.
Byron L. Lee
William L. Mimeles
Dwayne J. Munch, Sr.
Otholino Remedios, M.D.

(Marrero, LA - May 2017) – [West Jefferson Medical Center](#) (WJMC) is one of only 254 hospitals nationwide to receive the 2017 Stroke Care Excellence Award™ from Healthgrades, the leading online resource for comprehensive information about physicians and hospitals. This achievement places WJMC among the top 10% of hospitals in the nation as measured by lowest risk-adjusted mortality, according to this year's evaluation from Healthgrades. Every year Healthgrades evaluates hospital performance at nearly 4,500 hospitals nationwide for 34 of the most common inpatient procedures and conditions.

West Jefferson is also being recognized as a Five-Star recipient for the Treatment of Stroke in 2017 by Healthgrades. These achievements are part of findings released by Healthgrades and is featured in their **2017 Report to the Nation**. The new report demonstrates how clinical performance continues to differ dramatically between hospitals regionally and nationally.

This variation in care has a significant impact on health outcomes. For example, from 2013-2015, if all hospitals as a group, performed similarly to hospitals receiving 5-stars as a group, on average 223,412 could potentially have been saved and 162,215 complications could potentially have been avoided.** A 5-star rating indicates that a hospital's clinical outcomes are statistically significantly better than expected when treating the condition or performing the procedure being evaluated.

From 2013-2015, patients treated at hospitals receiving the Stroke Care Specialty Excellence Award have, on average, 32.9% lower risk of dying than if they were treated in hospitals that did not receive the award.** Similarly, patients treated at hospitals which did not receive the Stroke Care Specialty Excellence Award are, on average 1.49 times more likely to die than if they were treated at hospitals that did receive the award.**

“We are proud to receive the Healthgrades Stroke Care Excellence Award. It is a true reflection of the expert, compassionate care provided by our team of physicians, nurses, and staff,” said Nancy R. Cassagne, President and CEO of West Jefferson Medical Center. “With a stroke, time lost is brain lost. This recognition further demonstrates our commitment to delivering advanced stroke treatments to patients quickly and safely.”

WJMC’s Stroke Program, in partnership with the Culicchia Neurological Clinic, offers comprehensive neurosurgical, neurointerventional, and neurological services, and strives to provide the best, evidence-based medical care to its patients. As the only Joint Commission Certified Primary Stroke Center on the West Bank, WJMC maintains exceptionally high standards for stroke care, including standardized care delivery, individualized patient treatment plans, and compliance with the latest American Heart Association/American Stroke Association guidelines. WJMC is one of only 8 hospitals in Louisiana with 24/7 capability to perform a high-specialized procedure known as Endovascular Reperfusion Therapy for the treatment of certain types of Acute Ischemic Stroke. Additionally, WJMC offers both inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation to help patients move forward in their post-stroke recovery.

“WJMC’s Stroke Program has a long legacy of providing exceptional patient care that is only made possible by the extraordinary collaboration between our physicians, nurses, administrators, and other team members,” said Alyana Samai, Stroke Program Coordinator at West Jefferson. “This team works very hard to make sure each patient is given the care we would want our own loved ones to receive. It is a great honor to have that effort recognized by such a prestigious award.”

For the second year in a row, West Jefferson Medical Center was also recognized as the *ONLY* hospital in the Greater New Orleans Area* to achieve Top 5% in the nation for Patient Safety Excellence. WJMC is honored to be one of 460 hospitals to receive this honor out of 4,600 hospitals nationwide.

“Consumers have many choices regarding where to receive their healthcare, which is why it’s so vital that they understand outcomes performance at specific hospitals for specific conditions and procedures,” said Evan Marks, Chief Strategy Officer, Healthgrades. “Those hospitals that have achieved a specialty excellence distinction in Stroke Care from Healthgrades exemplify a commitment to exceptional quality of patient care.”

**For its analysis, Healthgrades evaluated approximately 45 million Medicare inpatient records for nearly 4,500 short-term acute care hospitals nationwide, assessing hospital performance relative to each of 32 common conditions and procedures, as well as an evaluation of comparative outcomes in appendectomy and bariatric surgery using all-payer data provided by 18 states. Healthgrades recognizes a hospital’s quality achievements for cohort-specific performance, specialty area performance, and overall clinical quality. Individual procedure or condition cohorts are designated as 5-star (statistically significantly better than expected), 3-star (not statistically different from expected) and 1-star (statistically significantly worse than expected) categories. The complete *Healthgrades 2017 Report to the Nation* and detailed study methodology, can be found at www.healthgrades.com/quality.

About West Jefferson Medical Center

Founded in 1956, (WJMC) is a 435-bed community hospital located in Marrero, La. As a full service medical center, WJMC offers comprehensive programs for preventive, emergency, acute and rehabilitative care with a medical staff of more than 400 physicians and a complement of 1,700 employees and many volunteers. The medical center enjoys national awards for clinical excellence across many of its subspecialties. WJMC is a proud member of LCMC Health, a Louisiana-based, not-for-profit hospital system serving the healthcare

needs of the Gulf Coast region. LCMC Health currently manages award-winning community hospitals including Children's Hospital, Touro, New Orleans East Hospital, University Medical Center New Orleans and West Jefferson Medical Center.

###

**Inclusive of the parishes of Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Washington*

***Statistics are based on Healthgrades analysis of MedPAR data for years 2013 through 2015 and represent 3-year estimates for Medicare patients only.*