

EAST ORANGE GENERAL HOSPITAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EAST ORANGE GENERAL HOSPITAL RECOGNIZED FOR IMPLEMENTING QUALITY HEART DISEASE AND STROKE CARE

East Orange, N.J., August 17, 2010 – East Orange General Hospital (EOGH) has been recognized for achievement in using evidence-based guidelines to provide the best possible care to patients and is the recipient of the Gold Performance Achievement Award by The American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines® program.

East Orange General Hospital and 814 other hospitals are featured in a special advertisement in the "America's Best Hospitals" issue of *US News & World Report* (August issue) to commemorate their receipt of Get With The Guidelines Gold, Gold Plus, Silver Plus or Silver Performance Achievement Award. A total of 961 awards were given for achievement in coronary artery disease, stroke and/or heart failure treatment.

Hospitals recognized in each category achieve at least 85 percent compliance to Get With The Guidelines measures. Those achieving 85 percent compliance for 24 consecutive months received the Gold Performance Achievement Award, with the Silver Performance Achievement Award going to those with 85 percent compliance for 12 consecutive months. Special recognition is also given for those hospitals achieving 85 percent compliance in two or all three categories and/or for being in 75 percent compliance with heart failure and/or stroke measures.

Get With The Guidelines is a hospital-based quality-improvement program designed to ensure that hospitals consistently care for cardiac and stroke patients following the most up-to-date guidelines and recommendations. The program addresses coronary artery disease, heart failure and stroke. Currently more than 1,400 hospitals participate in the program.

The American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's advertisement recognizes East Orange General Hospital commitment and success in performance achievement.

"The American Heart Association is pleased to recognize its top Get With The Guidelines participants," said. Lee Schwamm, M.D., national chairman of the Get With The Guidelines steering committee, associate professor of neurology at Harvard Medical School and Vice Chairman of Neurology at Massachusetts General Hospital. "Healthcare providers who use Get With The Guidelines are armed with the latest evidence-based guidelines and immediate access to clinical decision support, using a set of tools that have been shown to improve delivery of evidence-based care. The goal of this initiative is to improve the quality of life and help reduce deaths and disability among patients with heart disease and stroke."

Published scientific studies are providing us with more and more evidence that Get With The Guidelines works. Patients are getting the right care they need when they need it. That's resulting in improved survival."

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“We are proud that the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association have chosen the ‘America’s Best Hospitals’ issue of US News & World Report to recognize East Orange General Hospital for our achievements in their Get With The Guidelines program,” said Kevin Slavin, President & CEO of EOGH. “Get With The Guidelines gives our professionals the tools and reports they need to effectively treat our coronary heart disease, heart failure and stroke patients.”

About East Orange General Hospital

East Orange General Hospital is the largest private employer in East Orange, and remains as the only independent, fully accredited, acute-care hospital in Essex County. The hospital is the leader in Behavioral Health Services and provides a comprehensive array of primary care and specialty services including Same Day Surgery, Physical Rehabilitation Services, Family Health, Emergency Medicine, Outpatient Hemodialysis, Hyperbaric/Wound Management, Vascular and Medical/Surgical Services. Serving the community for over a century, the hospital recently expanded its services and is continually adding new equipment and programs to provide the highest level of quality and compassionate patient care. For more information on East Orange General Hospital, please visit: <http://www.evh.org>.

About Get With The Guidelines

Get With The Guidelines® is the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association’s hospital-based quality improvement program that empowers healthcare teams to save lives and reduce healthcare costs by helping hospitals follow evidence-based guidelines and recommendations. For more information, visit heart.org/quality.

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