Mercy earned the award by meeting specific quality achievement measures for the diagnosis and treatment of stroke patients at a set level for a designated period. These measures include evaluation of the proper use of medications and other stroke treatments aligned with the most up-to-date, evidence-based guidelines with the goal of speeding recovery and reducing death and disability for stroke patients. Before discharge, patients should also receive education on managing their health, get a follow-up visit scheduled, as well as other care transition interventions.

"Mercy is dedicated to improving the quality of care for our stroke patients by implementing the American Heart Association’s Get With The Guidelines-Stroke initiative," said Terri Hamm, RN, BA, Mercy’s stroke coordinator. "The tools and resources provided help us track and measure our success in meeting evidenced-based clinical guidelines developed to improve patient outcomes."

Mercy additionally received the association’s Target: StrokeSM Honor Roll Elite award. To qualify for this recognition, hospitals must meet quality measures developed to reduce the time between the patient’s arrival at the hospital and treatment with the clot-buster tissue plasminogen activator, or tPA, the only drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat ischemic stroke.

“We are pleased to recognize Mercy Medical Center – Des Moines for their commitment to stroke care,” said Eric E. Smith, M.D., national chairman of the Get With The Guidelines Steering Committee and an associate professor of neurology at the University of Calgary in Alberta, Canada. “Research has shown that hospitals adhering to clinical measures through the Get With The Guidelines quality improvement initiative can often see fewer readmissions and lower mortality rates.”

According to the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association, stroke is the number five cause of death and a leading cause of adult disability in the United States. On average, someone in the U.S. suffers a stroke every 40 seconds and nearly 795,000 people suffer a new or recurrent stroke each year.
MICHAEL DOSTER RECOGNIZED WITH DAISY AWARD

Mercy’s newest DAISY Award recipient, Michael Doster, R.N., was surprised with the award at a ceremony on June 14 in the 7th floor Telemetry Unit, with several of his family members, colleagues and Mercy nursing leadership in attendance. Michael was nominated by the son of a former patient to recognize the compassionate and remarkable care Michael provided to the patient.

Following is an excerpt from the nomination form: “He is exemplary in his interactions with patients as he connects with them personally, and professional in his work, demonstrating clinical excellence. Michael always has a smile on his face as he provides compassionate and remarkable care. Compassion is evident with Michael in his interactions. He is not hurrying in and out of the room but truly taking the time to connect, build a relationship that allows the patient to feel important and that their health is important to him. Michael is a nurse that is able to provide the total package – genuine care for his patients as well as top-notch care.”

Find out more about the award or submit a nomination at mercy.dm/daisy.

DAISY AWARD RECIPIENTS RECOGNIZED AT ANNUAL RECEPTION

Twenty-six nurses from Mercy Health Network – Central Iowa, including 11 from Mercy Medical Center – Des Moines, were recognized Friday, June 15, at a reception honoring Daisy Award recipients. A reception is held annually to celebrate these nurses from Mercy Health Network’s member health systems who provide amazing care every day. More than 2,600 health care organizations and colleges of nursing worldwide honor their nurses with the DAISY (Diseases Attacking the Immune System) Award. The primary mission of the award is to express profound gratitude to nurses for the work they do for patients and their families every day and for the skillful and amazingly compassionate care they deliver.

WHAT’S UP?

IOWA HEART CENTER OPENS NEW OFFICE IN IOWA CITY

Effective Monday, July 9, 2018, Iowa Heart Center will integrate with Mercy Iowa City Cardiology to create a premier cardiovascular center named Iowa Heart Center – Iowa City. The clinic will have the same location on the Mercy Iowa City campus at 540 E. Jefferson Street, Suite 400. By bringing together the expertise and extensive resources of both organizations, Mercy and Iowa Heart Center are well positioned to grow services throughout the Iowa City area and into southeast Iowa.

Patients will continue to see their current providers: John Mehegan, M.D., Michael Hajdu, M.D., Ankur Vyas, M.D., Edward Melcher, ARNP, and Annalisa Morgan, ARNP, who are joining the Iowa Heart Center team. Members of the Iowa Heart Center team will join these providers in offering services in Iowa City.

By integrating the Mercy Iowa City Cardiology program with Iowa Heart, the new Iowa Heart Center – Iowa City office will include more providers and greater range of services while continuing outstanding service and outcomes to patients.

CONTACT US

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If you are interested in submitting information to be printed in the Bulletin, send it to PR and Marketing or call 515-247-3050.

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