



Contact: Stacy Thornton
Director of Marketing and Professional Relations
832-912-3846
Stacy.thornton@ncmc-hospital.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NORTH CYPRESS MEDICAL CENTER RECEIVES AMERICAN STROKE ASSOCIATION PERFORMANCE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Cypress, TX, 7/27/10- North Cypress Medical Center has received the American Stroke Association's "Get With The Guidelines-Stroke" Silver Performance Achievement Award. This award recognizes North Cypress Medical Center's commitment and success in implementing a higher standard of stroke care by ensuring that stroke patients receive treatment according to nationally accepted standards and recommendations.

"With a stroke, time lost is brain lost, and the 'Get With The Guidelines-Stroke' Silver Performance Achievement Award addresses the important element of time," said Robert A. Behar M.D., Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer. "We are incredibly proud to accept this award and take a critical step forward in saving the lives and improving outcomes of stroke patients."

North Cypress Medical Center was presented with the Silver Performance Achievement Award by reaching an aggressive goal of treating stroke patients with 85% or higher compliance to core standard levels of care. North Cypress has developed a comprehensive system for rapid diagnosis and treatment of stroke patients admitted to the emergency department, including always being equipped to provide brain imaging scans, having neurologists available to conduct patient evaluations and using clot-busting medications when appropriate.

"The American Stroke Association commends North Cypress Medical Center for its success in implementing standards of care and protocols," said Lee H. Schwamm, M.D., chair of the "Get With The Guidelines" National Steering Committee.

According to the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association, stroke is the third leading cause of death in the United States and a leading cause of serious, long-term disability. On average, someone suffers a stroke every 45 seconds; someone dies of a stroke every three minutes; and 795,000 people suffer a new or recurrent stroke each year.

North Cypress Medical Center is a 150-bed acute care hospital located in Cypress (northwest Houston area), Texas. The hospital offers patients state-of-the-art medical care and technology in an upscale, five-star hotel-like atmosphere. Medical services include Cardiology, Critical Care, Emergency Care, Orthopedics including a Total Joint and Spine Center, Cancer care including Radiation Oncology, and Surgical Weight Loss. Visit our website at ncmc-hospital.com for more information.

“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.

###