

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **Northside Medical Center Receives Primary Stroke Center Certification**

*Youngstown, May 18, 2009* — Northside Medical Center successfully completed an accreditation by the Joint Commission and received certification as a Primary Stroke Center.

The Commission conducted a thorough on-site evaluation of NMC in which the hospital exceeded all clinical benchmarks for stroke care to become accredited and receive the Commission's Gold Seal of Approval.

"In addition to the quality stroke care Northside has provided for many years, our team has focused this past year to meet the high standards of a primary stroke center," says Dr. Amarjeet Nagpaul, medical director of Northside's stroke program. "Our hospital and our highly skilled stroke team's multidisciplinary approach have resulted in us being qualified to offer the best treatment available to stroke patients in our community."

The recognition is timely with May being National Stroke Awareness Month. Behind heart diseases and cancer, stroke is the third leading cause of death in this country. About 700,000 Americans each year suffer a new or recurrent stroke. That means, on average, a stroke occurs every 45 seconds according to the American Stroke Association.

"This certification accentuates that we have the physicians, staff, medical resources and expertise to deliver the utmost care for the needs of stroke patients, said Michael Seelman, Chief Operating Officer.

***Members of the media are invited to attend the Ninth Annual Stroke Symposium at the John Politis, M.D. Auditorium at Northside Medical Center. We will be making a formal announcement of the certification at 10 a.m., Thursday May 21. Chief Medical Officer Jay Osborne, M.D. and Amarjeet Nagpaul M.D. will be available for interviews at this time.***

For more information, please contact Trish Hrina at 330-841-3301.

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