

Essentia Health receives prestigious cardiology award

Essentia Health is among nation's top performing hospitals for treatment of heart attack patients.

Essentia Health has received the American College of Cardiology's NCDR Chest Pain – MI Registry Platinum Performance Achievement Award for 2020. Essentia is one of only 140 hospitals nationwide to receive the honor.

The award recognizes Essentia Health's success in implementing a higher standard of care for heart attack patients and signifies that Essentia Health has reached an aggressive goal of strict adherence to clinical guidelines and recommendations as outlined by the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association.

To receive the Chest Pain – MI Registry Platinum Performance Achievement Award, Essentia Health has demonstrated sustained achievement in the Chest Pain – MI Registry for two consecutive years (2018 and 2019), and performed at the highest level for specific performance measures. Full participation in the registry engages hospitals in a robust quality improvement process using data to drive improvements in adherence to guideline recommendations and overall quality of care provided to heart attack patients.

"As a Platinum Performance Award recipient, Essentia Health has established itself as a leader in setting the national standard for improving quality of care in patients with acute myocardial infarction," said Michael C. Kontos, MD, FACC, chair of the NCDR Chest Pain – MI Registry Steering Subcommittee, Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center. "By meeting the award requirements set forth in the registry, Essentia Health has demonstrated a commitment to providing reliable, comprehensive treatment for heart attack patients based on current clinical guideline recommendations."

The Center for Disease Control estimates that almost 700,000 Americans suffer a heart attack each year. A heart attack occurs when a blood clot in a coronary artery partially or completely blocks blood flow to the heart muscle. Treatment guidelines include administering aspirin upon arrival and discharge, timely restoration of blood flow to the blocked artery, smoking cessation counseling and cardiac rehabilitation, among others.

"This award is a testimony to the sheer dedication and hard work put in by our doctors and nurses to achieve the best possible outcomes for our patients with heart attack," shares Dr. Alok Saurav, interventional cardiologist at Essentia Health-Fargo.

Chest Pain – MI Registry empowers health care provider teams to consistently treat heart attack patients according to the most current, science-based guidelines and establishes a national standard for understanding and improving the quality, safety and outcomes of care provided for patients with coronary artery disease, specifically high-risk heart attack patients.

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