



## NORTHERN MICHIGAN

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### **McLaren Northern Michigan**

#### **AWARDED ADVANCED CERTIFICATION FOR PRIMARY STROKE CENTERS**

McLaren Northern Michigan is proud to have earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® and the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Heart-Check mark for Advanced Certification for Primary Stroke Centers. The Gold Seal of Approval® and the Heart-Check mark represent symbols of quality from their respective organizations.

McLaren Northern Michigan underwent a rigorous onsite review on December 10, 2018. Joint Commission experts evaluated compliance with stroke-related standards and requirements, including program management, the delivery of clinical care, and performance improvement.

"We congratulate McLaren Northern Michigan for achieving this designation," said Nancy Brown, chief executive officer, the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association. "By adhering to this very specific set of treatment guidelines McLaren Northern Michigan has clearly made it a priority to deliver high quality care to all patients affected by stroke."

"The Advanced Primary Stroke Center certification highlights the exceptional stroke care we provide to our patients and surrounding communities," stated Jennifer Woods, Interim CEO for McLaren Northern Michigan. "We strive to advance our care even further each and every day."

Established in 2003, Advanced Certification for Primary Stroke Centers is awarded for a two-year period to Joint Commission-accredited acute care hospitals.

Stroke is the number four cause of death and a leading cause of adult disability in the United States, according to the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association. On average, someone suffers a stroke every 40 seconds; someone dies of a stroke every four minutes; and 795,000 people suffer a new or recurrent stroke each year.

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**About McLaren Northern Michigan**

McLaren Northern Michigan, a subsidiary of McLaren Health Care, is a 202-bed, regional referral center located in Petoskey, serving residents in 22 counties across northern lower Michigan and the eastern part of the Upper Peninsula. A medical staff of more than 230 physicians represents nearly all medical and surgical specialties, enabling full-service care with an emphasis on heart, cancer, orthopedics, and neuroscience services. For additional information, visit [northernhealth.org](http://northernhealth.org).

**About The Joint Commission:**

Founded in 1951, [The Joint Commission](http://www.jointcommission.org) seeks to continuously improve health care for the public, in collaboration with other stakeholders, by evaluating health care organizations and inspiring them to excel in providing safe and effective care of the highest quality and value. The Joint Commission accredits and certifies more than 21,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States. An independent, nonprofit organization, The Joint Commission is the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. Learn more about The Joint Commission at [www.jointcommission.org](http://www.jointcommission.org).

**About the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association:**

The American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association are devoted to saving people from heart disease and stroke—America's No. 1 and No. 4 killers. We team with millions of volunteers to fund innovative research, fight for stronger public health policies, and provide lifesaving tools and information to prevent and treat these diseases. The Dallas-based American Heart Association is the nation's oldest and largest voluntary organization dedicated to fighting heart disease and stroke. The American Stroke Association is a division of the American Heart Association. To learn more or to get involved, call 1-800-AHA-USA1, visit [heart.org](http://heart.org) or call any of our offices around the country. Follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/americanheartassociation) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/americanheart).

The familiar Heart-Check mark now helps consumers evaluate their choices in hospital care. Each mark given to a hospital is earned by meeting specific standards for the care of patients with heart disease and/or stroke. The Heart-Check mark can only be displayed by hospitals that have achieved and defined requirements set by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association. For more information on the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association Hospital Accreditation Program visit [www.heart.org/myhospital](http://www.heart.org/myhospital).