



MINISTRY HEALTH CARE

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NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry Saint Clare's reaccredited as Chest Pain Center

Ministry Saint Clare's Hospital in Weston has received full Chest Pain Center accreditation with PCI from the Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care (SCPC).

As one of two advanced surgical centers for the Marshfield Clinic and Ministry Health Care Heart Care Team, Ministry Saint Clare's was the first hospital in the region in 2007 to achieve Chest Pain Accreditation which is valid for a term of three years.

The chest pain program at Ministry Saint Clare's is a joint effort of the hospital; The Diagnostic & Treatment Center, a service of Marshfield Clinic and Ministry Health Care; and Marshfield Clinic.

The percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) endorsement recognizes the level of care available at Ministry Saint Clare's and supports the use of interventional treatment to address medical needs of chest pain patients who come to the hospital for care. The latest reaccreditation cycle marks the third straight time Ministry Saint Clare's has been approved for full accreditation with PCI.

"The process to get to this level of recognition involved many individuals and teams throughout the entire Weston campus and required considerable work before we were ready to invite the survey team here to visit our program," said Ministry Saint Clare's Hospital Chief Medical Officer Larry Hegland, M.D. "While Ministry Saint Clare's receives the official designation, this is truly a milestone that all three groups have helped to achieve."

Heart attacks are the leading cause of death in the United States, with 600,000 people dying annually of heart disease. More than five million Americans visit hospitals each year with chest pain.

“By following the stringent SCPC guidelines as an accredited chest pain center, we are committed to do our part to reduce the mortality rate of these patients by teaching the public to recognize and react to the early symptoms of a possible heart attack, reduce the time that it takes to receive treatment, and increase the accuracy and effectiveness of treatment,” said Heong P’ng, M.D., medical director of Emergency Services at Ministry Saint Clare’s.

The Accredited Chest Pain Center’s protocol-driven and systematic approach to patient management allows physicians to reduce time to treatment during the critical early stages of a heart attack, when treatments are most effective, and to better monitor patients when it is not clear whether or not they are having a coronary event. Such observation helps ensure that patients are neither sent home too early nor needlessly admitted.

With the increase in chest pain centers came the need to establish standards designed to improve the consistency and quality of care provided to patients. SCPC’s accreditation process ensures that centers meet or exceed quality-of-care measures in acute cardiac medicine.

The Accredited Chest Pain Center at Ministry Saint Clare’s has demonstrated its expertise and commitment to quality patient care by meeting or exceeding a wide set of stringent criteria and undergoing an onsite review by a team of SPCP’s accreditation review specialists.

Key areas in which an Accredited Chest Pain Center must demonstrate expertise include the following:

- Integrating the emergency department with the local emergency medical system
- Assessing, diagnosing, and treating patients quickly
- Effectively treating patients with low risk for acute coronary syndrome and no assignable cause for their symptoms
- Continually seeking to improve processes and procedures
- Ensuring the competence and training of Accredited Chest Pain Center personnel
- Maintaining organizational structure and commitment
- Having a functional design that promotes optimal patient care
- Supporting community outreach programs that educate the public to promptly seek medical care if they display symptoms of a possible heart attack

About Ministry Saint Clare’s Hospital:

Ministry Saint Clare’s Hospital is an all-digital provider of quality, compassionate care offering a wide range of primary and specialty services as an anchor of the Weston Regional Medical Center.

In addition to 24-hour emergency-level III trauma and surgical services, Ministry Saint Clare’s was the first hospital in central Wisconsin to become an Accredited Chest Pain Center and features major medical and surgical specialties to meet the needs of central Wisconsin and beyond.

A leader in quality outcomes and patient safety nationally, Ministry Saint Clare’s has been recognized as a Top-100 Hospital by Truven Health Analytics. It is one of the nation’s first all-

digital hospitals and has been annually named one of America's Most Wired Hospitals by Hospitals and Health Network Magazine since opening in 2006.

About Ministry Health Care

Ministry Health Care is an integrated Catholic health care delivery system serving over 1.1 million people across Wisconsin and eastern Minnesota. Ministry operations generate nearly \$2.2 billion in annual operating revenue with 15 hospitals, 46 clinics, and nearly 12,000 employees including 650 physicians and advanced practice clinicians. According to Truven Health Analytics, Ministry is ranked among the top 20 percent of health care systems in the country.

About the Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care

The Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care (SCPC) is an international not-for-profit organization that focuses on transforming cardiovascular care by assisting facilities in their effort to create communities of excellence that brings together quality, cost and patient satisfaction. As the only cross-specialty organization, SCPC provides the support needed for individual hospitals and hospital systems to effectively bridge existing gaps in treatment by providing the tools, education and support necessary to successfully navigate the changing face of healthcare. For more information on SCPC, accreditation and certification opportunities, visit www.scpcp.org, or call toll free 877.271.4176

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