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All Three Dignity Health Central Coast Hospitals Achieve Advanced Stroke Certification

Designation Establishes The Three Hospitals As Primary Stroke Centers

CENTRAL COAST, June 15, 2015 – Arroyo Grande Community Hospital (AGCH), French Hospital Medical Center (FHMC), and Marian Regional Medical Center (MRMC) are proud to announce they have all achieved Advanced Primary Stroke Center Certification by The Joint Commission. This advanced certification highlights our Dignity Health Central Coast hospitals' continued dedication and commitment to provide excellent health care and enhanced patient care so our community does not have to travel out of the area for specialized services.

Dignity Health Central Coast is the largest network of Primary Stroke Center hospitals on the Central Coast including a breadth of neurological care services, when combined, unavailable anywhere else in the surrounding area. A collaborative stroke management team, available 24/7, is prepared to treat the most complex cases of stroke from within the California Central Coast region and beyond.

“Our teams are committed to a continuous effort towards improvement, innovation, and an enhanced level of patient care. The achievement of the Advanced Primary Stroke Center Certification for all three of our Dignity Health Central Coast hospitals commemorates this dedication to enact more efficient programs, procedures and technologies,” says Nicholas Slimack, MD, Neuroscience Services Medical Director.

Dignity Health Central Coast Neuroscience Services' stroke program is unique, offering patients with an extensive continuum of care, from exceptional Emergency Department treatment to in-house Acute Rehabilitation.

“We are pleased to be recognized for our hard work in improving quality of care for our brain injury population through the achievement of advanced stroke certification. We look forward to helping stroke survivors rehabilitate into their communities at our Dignity Health Primary Stroke Centers,” says Julia Bryson, MD, Acute Rehabilitation Medical Director.

(more)

Arroyo Grande Community Hospital
345 Halcyon Road
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420
805.489.4261

French Hospital Medical Center
1911 Johnson Avenue
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
805.543.5353

Marian Regional Medical Center
1400 East Church Street
Santa Maria, CA 93454
805.739.3000

Additionally, the Dignity Health Telemedicine Network brings together highly specialized physicians, which include tele-neurology specialists, and state-of-the-art technology to offer patients immediate access to advanced medical care. The Dignity Health Telemedicine Network allows remote partner facilities to leverage the expertise, experience and technology that have helped Dignity Health's Arroyo Grande Community Hospital, French Hospital Medical Center, and Marian Regional Medical Center achieve recognition from The Joint Commission as Primary Stroke Centers on the Central Coast.

The Joint Commission is a non-profit organization that accredits more than 20,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States. The Joint Commission aims to continuously improve health care for the public by inspiring health centers to improve their programs and procedures to provide safer and more efficient care to patients.

"Arroyo Grande Community Hospital, French Hospital Medical Center, and Marian Regional Medical Center have thoroughly demonstrated the greatest level of commitment to the care of stroke patients through its Advanced Certification for Primary Stroke Centers," says Michele Sacco, M.S., interim executive director, The Joint Commission Certification Programs. "We commend each hospital for becoming a leader in stroke care, potentially providing a higher standard of service for stroke patients in its community."

To request additional information about Dignity Health Central Coast neurological care and our telecommunicated services, call the Dignity Health Central Coast Neuroscience Services at 805.473.7629.

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Dignity Health Central Coast

Dignity Health Central Coast is comprised of five hospitals, all recognized for their quality of care, safety and service, primary care offices, premier ambulatory surgery centers, technologically advanced imaging centers, outpatient services and comprehensive home health services. Hospitals in the Dignity Health Central Coast region include Arroyo Grande Community Hospital in Arroyo Grande, French Hospital Medical Center in San Luis Obispo, Marian Regional Medical Center in Santa Maria, St. John's Pleasant Valley Hospital in Camarillo and St. John's Regional Medical Center in Oxnard. Each hospital is supported by an active philanthropic Foundation to provide additional funding to support new programs and services, as well as to advance the community's access to health care. For more information, visit:
www.dignityhealth.org/centralcoast