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One of Only 15 in the Nation, Southeast Hospital Earns Prestigious Cardiac Certification

OCTOBER 24TH 2019 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Southeast Hospital, flagship of the SoutheastHEALTH system of care, has received Comprehensive Cardiac Center (CCC) Certification, earned by the Joint Commission's Accreditation and Certification program and in collaboration with the American Heart Association's Heart-Check process. The certification recognizes Southeast's heart program for its comprehensive approach to care and commitment to excellence.

The certification is granted through a rigorous, in-depth evaluation of patient-centered care. Southeast Hospital is one of only 15 hospitals in the nation and the smallest community hospital to achieve this recognition to date.

Dr. Maria Sudak, Chief Operating Officer for SoutheastHEALTH said in order to obtain CCC Certification, the organization was required to show excellence and exceed quality measurements in at least seven of the following areas:

- *Coronary Artery Bypass
- *Heart Failure
- *Cardiac Arrest/Resuscitation
- *Cardiac Rehabilitation
- *Diagnostic Cardiac Catheterization Procedure
- *Valve Replacement/Repair
- *Percutaneous Coronary Intervention
- *Arrhythmia Management
- *Acute Myocardial Infarction (heart attack).

“To be singled out as one of the nation's top centers for cardiac care required a spirit of commitment and teamwork across the entire staff,” Sudak said. “Earning this honor required a great deal of work, commitment and expertise on our part, and it was the right thing to do for our patients. They expect, and deserve, exceptional care.”

Sudak added that Southeast's commitment to quality is of the utmost importance. “We strive to provide high quality care as we serve our communities. We monitor our quality and measure outcomes, and we work continuously to improve.”

“The Joint Commission’s Comprehensive Cardiac Center Certification recognizes health care organizations committed to fostering continuous quality improvement in patient safety and quality of care,” says Mark Pelletier, RN, MS, chief operating officer, Accreditation and Certification Operations, and chief nursing executive, The Joint Commission. “We commend SoutheastHEALTH for using certification to reduce variation in its clinical processes and to strengthen its program structure and management framework for cardiac patients.”

“We congratulate SoutheastHEALTH for this outstanding achievement,” says Nancy Brown, chief executive officer, the American Heart Association. “This certification reflects its commitment to providing the highest quality of care for cardiac patients.”

Southeast Hospital has a long history of commitment to providing excellent cardiac care. Southeast established the first open heart surgery program in downstate Missouri in 1983. Since then, Southeast has been a pioneer in bringing new cardiac lifesaving technologies and procedures to the region. These patient-centered investments recently included a new, hybrid operating suite with technology to advance treatment options for our region’s critically ill heart patients, a new Heart and Vascular Pavilion designed for patient and family comfort and introducing to the region transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR), a minimally invasive approach to replacement of a narrowed aortic valve, and transcatheter mitral valve repair (TMVR) procedure which allows mitral regurgitation patients to be treated without invasive open heart surgery.

About SoutheastHEALTH

At SoutheastHEALTH, the region's premier healthcare system in southeast Missouri, our patients receive excellent care of the highest clinical quality, close to home. Within our network are more than 50 care locations in 13 communities, including hospitals, primary and specialty care clinics representing over 30 clinical specialties and extending care for patients in a four-state area. Learn more at SEhealth.org.

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