



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 5, 2010

**LINCOLN HOSPITAL RECOGNIZED FOR QUALITY STROKE CARE**

*Receives American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's  
Get With the Guidelines® Stroke Silver Plus Performance Achievement Award*

Bronx, New York - Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center has been recognized for the successful implementation of higher standards of stroke care, aimed at reducing death and disability and improving the lives of stroke patients. The Silver Plus Performance Achievement Award presented to the hospital is an advanced level of recognition that allows hospitals to be acknowledged for their compliance with the Get With The Guidelines (GWTG) nationally accepted standards and quality measures.

To receive the Get With The Guidelines Stroke Silver Plus Performance Achievement Award, Lincoln Hospital achieved at least 12 consecutive months of 85 percent or higher adherence to all Get With The Guidelines Stroke Performance Achievement indicators and achieved 75 percent or higher compliance with six of 10 Get With The Guidelines Stroke Quality Measures during that same period of time, which are reporting initiatives to measure quality of care. These measures include aggressive use of medications, anticoagulation therapy, cholesterol reducing drugs, smoking cessation and other treatments designed to save lives, decrease disability and improve the quality of life of stroke patients.

For this performance achievement, the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association will list Lincoln Hospital, along with other Get With The Guidelines® awardees, in the July 2010 issue of *US News and World Report's 100 Best Hospitals in America*. As a New York State Designated Stroke Center, Lincoln continues to achieve a high level of performance for implementing life-prolonging treatments, and is dedicated to making its stroke program among the best in the country.

“Lincoln Hospital is to be commended for its commitment to implementing standards of care and protocols for treating stroke patients,” said Lee H. Schwamm, M.D. chair of GWTG National Steering Committee. “The full implementation of acute care and secondary prevention recommendations and guidelines is a critical step in saving the lives and improving outcomes of stroke patients.”

“The Get With The Guidelines Stroke Silver Plus Performance Achievement Award is a testament to the multidisciplinary team of professionals who are committed to providing evidence-based stroke care and implement best practices that include acute stroke interventions, secondary prevention and rehabilitation” said Raghu S. Loganathan, M.D., FCCP, Director of Lincoln Hospital’s Intensive Care Unit and Stroke Center. “The number of acute ischemic

stroke patients eligible for treatment is expected to grow over the next decade due to increasing stroke incidence and a large aging population. Having a state of art stroke system of care will enormously benefit the local community”.

According to the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association, stroke is the third leading cause of death in the United States and a leading cause of serious, long-term disability. On average, someone suffers a stroke every 45 seconds; someone dies of a stroke every three minutes and 795,000 people suffer new or recurrent strokes each year.

“The Get With The Guidelines” Stroke Silver Plus Performance Achievement Award is evidence that our staff is committed to providing care that has been scientifically shown to quickly and efficiently treat stroke patients with evidence-based protocols,” said José R. Sanchez, Lincoln Hospital Executive Director and Senior Vice President of the Generations+/Northern Manhattan Health Network. “I am proud to commend the multidisciplinary team that has worked so hard to develop the Lincoln Hospital Stroke Program in collaboration with Stroke Center Director, Dr. Raghu Loganathan.

Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center, located at 234 E. 149<sup>th</sup> Street in the Bronx, is a 347-bed, acute care level 1 trauma center with the busiest single site emergency department in the region. The hospital emphasizes primary care and specialty medicine and utilizes the latest advances in medical science. Lincoln Hospital is a member of the Generations+/Northern Manhattan Health Network, a healthcare conglomerate which is part of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation.

The New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC), is a \$6.3 billion integrated healthcare delivery system and the largest municipal healthcare organization in the country. HHC serves 1.3 million New Yorkers every year and nearly 450,000 who are uninsured. HHC provides medical, mental health and substance abuse services through its 11 acute care hospitals, four skilled nursing facilities, six large diagnostic and treatment centers and more than 80 community based clinics. HHC Health and Home Care also provide health services at home for New Yorkers. To learn more about HHC, visit [www.nyc.gov/hhc](http://www.nyc.gov/hhc).

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