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**LINCOLN HOSPITAL RECEIVES GOLD ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
FROM AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION**

Bronx, New York—For the third consecutive year, Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center is the recipient of the American Heart Association’s Get With The Guidelines Coronary Artery Disease (CAD) Gold Performance Achievement Award. The award recognizes Lincoln’s commitment and success in implementing a higher standard of cardiac care that effectively improves treatment of patients hospitalized with coronary artery disease.

Under the Get with the Guidelines-CAD program, patients are started on aggressive risk reduction therapies such as cholesterol-lowering drugs, ACE inhibitors and beta-blockers in the hospital and receive smoking cessation/weight management counseling as well as referrals for cardiac rehabilitation before they are discharged. Hospitals that receive the Get with the Guidelines--CAD Gold Performance Achievement Award have demonstrated for 24 consecutive months that at least 85 percent of its eligible coronary patients (without contraindications) are discharged following the American Heart Association’s recommended treatment guidelines.

“The American Heart Association applauds Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center for its success in implementing the appropriate evidence-based care and protocols to reduce the number of recurrent events and deaths in cardiovascular disease patients,” said Gregg C. Fonarow, M.D., National Chairman of the Get With The Guidelines Steering Committee. “Lincoln has achieved a high level of performance in terms of implementing these life-prolonging treatments.”

“This recognition is especially significant to the South Bronx community, which suffers in disproportionate numbers from cardiovascular diseases, said José R. Sánchez, Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center Executive Director and Generations/Northern Manhattan Health Network Senior Vice President. “This acknowledgment from the American Heart Association demonstrates that our excellent staff has achieved a high level of performance in terms of implementing life-prolonging treatments for our cardiac patients, and is dedicated to making our cardiac service among the best.”

“Managing patients with evidence-based guidelines improves patient care and prevents subsequent events,” said Lekshmi Dharmarajan, M.D., Chief of Cardiology at Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center. “The award is a testament to our hospital’s high quality of care and commitment to providing health care based on the needs of our patient population.”

According to the American Heart Association, approximately 610,000 people suffer a new heart attack and 325,000 experience a recurrent heart attack each year. Statistics also show that 1.26 million individuals are affected by Coronary Artery Disease (CAD) each year. Additional data indicates that one in five deaths in the United States is caused by CAD.

Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center, located at 234 E. 149th 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.

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