

# SCOPE

FALL 2020

**Healthgrades Recognizes  
CHH as 5-Star Recipient for  
C-Section Delivery**

**SMMC among nation's  
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for treatment of heart  
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HIMG

Mehiar El-Hamdani, MD – Cardiologist  
Marshall Cardiology



# Mountain Health Network Hospitals Receive *Get With The Guidelines*<sup>®</sup> Quality Achievement Awards



Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH) and St. Mary's Medical Center (SMMC) have received the *Get With The Guidelines*<sup>®</sup>-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award from the American Heart

Association (AHA) and American Stroke Association (ASA).

**CHH received the award for the seventh consecutive year and St. Mary's received the award for the 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.**

*Get With The Guidelines* is the AHA/ASA's hospital-based quality improvement program that provides hospitals with tools and resources to increase adherence to the latest research-based guidelines. Developed with the goal of saving lives and hastening recovery, *Get With The Guidelines* has touched the lives of more than six million patients since 2001.



"Our team is committed to pursuing best practices in stroke care," said Justin Nolte, MD, medical director of Neurology at Cabell Huntington Hospital and

associate professor in the Department of Neuroscience at Marshall University's Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. "We are pleased to be recognized for our dedication and achievements in stroke care through the American Stroke Association and American Heart Association."



"The main goals for our stroke team are to save lives and help patients recover quickly," said Christy Franklin, MS, RN, CNRN, director, St. Mary's Regional Neuroscience Center. "It's extremely gratifying to be recognized by the American Stroke Association and the American Heart Association for our dedication to achieving those goals."

CHH and SMMC earned the awards by meeting specific quality achievement measures for the diagnosis and treatment of stroke patients at a set level for a designated period. These measures include evaluation of the proper use of medications and other stroke treatments aligned with the most up-to-date, evidence-based guidelines with the goal of speeding recovery and reducing death and disability for stroke patients. Before discharge, patients should also receive education on managing their health; get a follow-up visit scheduled, as well as other care transition interventions.

CHH additionally received the associations' Target: Stroke<sup>®</sup> Elite award, while SMMC received the Target: Stroke<sup>®</sup> Honor Roll award. To qualify for these recognitions, hospitals must meet quality measures developed to reduce the time between the patient's arrival at the hospital and treatment with the clot-buster tissue plasminogen activator, or tPA, the only drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to treat ischemic stroke. Both hospitals also received the Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll award, which recognizes the hospitals met quality measures developed with more than 90% of

compliance for 12 consecutive months for the "Overall Diabetes Cardiovascular Initiative Composite Score."



"Education and a commitment to excellence have helped us to again gain this prestigious recognition," said Mitzi Beckett, BSN, SCRNP, stroke program

coordinator at CHH. "It also helps us raise the bar and continue to focus on the best for our patients."

"We are pleased to recognize Cabell Huntington Hospital and St. Mary's Medical Center for their commitment to stroke care," said Lee H. Schwamm, MD, national chairperson of the Quality Oversight Committee and executive vice chair of Neurology, director of Acute Stroke Services, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts. "Research has shown that hospitals adhering to clinical measures through the *Get With The Guidelines* quality improvement initiative can often see fewer readmissions and lower mortality rates."

According to the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association, stroke is the fifth leading cause of death and a leading cause of adult disability in the United States. On average, someone in the U.S. suffers a stroke every 40 seconds, someone dies of a stroke every four minutes, and nearly 800,000 people suffer a new or recurrent stroke each year.





## Mountain Health Network Vice President and General Counsel to Speak at National Conference



Paul English Smith, JD, CPHRM, DFASHRM, vice president and general counsel for Mountain Health Network, served as a keynote speaker at the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary American Society for Health Care Risk Management (ASHRM) National Conference on Oct. 12-14.

The virtual conference featured a selection of ASHRM's highest-rated concurrent sessions and keynote speakers from across the United States. Smith gave the legislative and regulatory update for 2020.

A graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law, Smith has over 35 years of experience as a practicing attorney as well as over 32 years in healthcare risk management. He is a past president of the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management, a Certified Professional in Healthcare Risk Management and a Distinguished Fellow of the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management.



Patients at Cabell Huntington Hospital and Marshall Health no longer need to toggle between two patient portal accounts to get their health care results. Patients are now able to access their health information from both inpatient and outpatient visits with Cabell Huntington Hospital and office visits with Marshall Health providers in a combined patient portal, *myHealthFile*.

To create a free *myHealthFile* account, patients provide their email address to the staff at registration or their next visit to their provider's office. The patient will receive an invitation email that will send a registration link and enrollment instructions. Once a patient is enrolled, he or she can access *myHealthFile* from a link on the home page of Marshall Health's website ([marshallhealth.org](http://marshallhealth.org)) and/or from a link on the home page of Cabell Huntington Hospital's website ([cabellhuntington.org](http://cabellhuntington.org)).

Patients who currently have an account with Cabell Huntington Hospital will automatically be added to *myHealthFile*. Patients who have a patient portal account with Marshall Health but not Cabell Huntington Hospital will need to re-enroll.

## 20/20 INSIGHT



Thank you for your participation in the 2020 Press Ganey Physician Survey. Feedback is a gift that allows us to improve the system. Watch for a summary of what we heard from you to help us develop process improvements.

## Cabell Huntington Hospital Earns Optum's Center of Excellence Designation

Cabell Huntington Hospital's (CHH) Center



for Surgical Weight Control has been named a *Center of Excellence (COE)* for bariatric surgery by the Clinical Sciences Institute of Optum®. CHH has received this award five times.

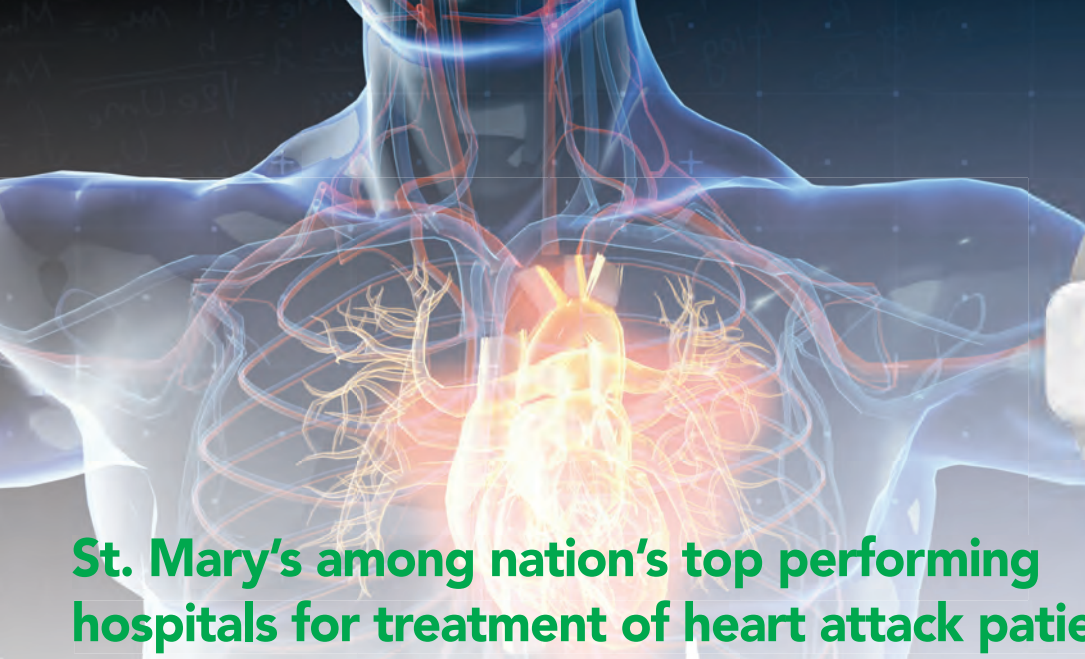
A COE designation is given to medical practices that combine top-quality clinical care with excellent patient support and better patient outcomes. Optum Centers of Excellence are reviewed annually and provide access to clinically superior, cost-effective healthcare-based criteria, such as fewer patient complications and readmissions.

Those who belong to the Optum COE program perform more successful bariatric procedures than many other facilities nearby and are able to provide:

- 15% lower mortality rate compared to non-COE providers
- 16% lower inpatient hospital readmissions
- 12% lower reoperation rate for bariatric procedures

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), more than 33% of U.S. adults 20 years and older are obese and about 6% are extremely obese. With obesity comes a higher risk for heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, sleep apnea, digestive diseases, orthopedic disorders and an increased risk of death from some cancers. Obesity is the second leading cause of preventable death in the United States.

Bariatric surgery is an effective solution to reduce the long-term health effects of obesity. To learn more about weight loss and bariatric surgery options at Cabell Huntington Hospital, please call 304.399.4118.



## St. Mary's among nation's top performing hospitals for treatment of heart attack patients

*American College of Cardiology NCDR Chest Pain - MI Registry Platinum Award recognizes high standards of patient care*

St. Mary's Medical Center earned the American College of Cardiology's NCDR Chest Pain – MI Registry Platinum Performance Achievement Award for 2020. St. Mary's is one of only 140 hospitals nationwide to receive the honor. This is the fourth consecutive year St. Mary's has received the award.

The award recognizes St. Mary's commitment and success in implementing a higher standard of care for heart attack patients and signifies that St. Mary's has reached an aggressive goal of treating these patients to standard levels of care as outlined by the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association clinical guidelines and recommendations.

To receive the Chest Pain – MI Registry Platinum Performance Achievement Award, St. Mary's demonstrated sustained achievement in the Chest Pain – MI Registry two consecutive years (2018 and 2019), and performed at the highest level for specific performance measures. Full participation in the registry engages hospitals in a robust quality improvement process using data to drive improvements in adherence to guideline recommendations and overall quality of care provided to heart attack patients.



"St. Mary's is committed to the health and well-being of our community," said Kelli Klaiber, BSN, RN, interim director, St. Mary's Regional Heart Institute. "We are pleased to receive this award that recognizes that commitment."

St. Mary's Regional Heart Institute was named a Center of Excellence by Mountain Health Network.

"As a Platinum Performance Award recipient, St. Mary's has established itself as a leader in setting the national standard for improving quality of care in patients with acute myocardial infarction," said Michael C. Kontos, MD, FACC, chair of the NCDR Chest Pain – MI Registry Steering Subcommittee, Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center. "By meeting the award requirements set forth in the registry, St. Mary's has demonstrated a commitment to providing reliable, comprehensive treatment for heart attack patients based on current clinical guideline recommendations."

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that almost 700,000 Americans suffer a heart attack each year. A heart attack occurs when a blood clot in a



coronary artery partially or completely blocks blood flow to the heart muscle. Treatment guidelines include administering aspirin upon arrival and discharge, timely restoration of blood flow to the blocked artery, smoking cessation counseling and cardiac rehabilitation, among others.

Chest Pain – MI Registry empowers health care provider teams to consistently treat heart attack patients according to the most current, science-based guidelines and establishes a national standard for understanding and improving the quality, safety and outcomes of care provided for patients with coronary artery disease, specifically high-risk heart attack patients.

**For more information about St. Mary's Regional Heart Institute, visit [www.st-marys.org](http://www.st-marys.org).**



# St. Mary's receives Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award

St. Mary's Medical Center (SMMC) has received the American Heart Association's *Get With The Guidelines*®-Heart Failure Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award. The award recognizes the hospital's commitment to ensuring heart failure patients receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines founded in the latest scientific evidence. The goal is speeding recovery and reducing hospital readmissions for heart failure patients.

SMMC earned the award by meeting specific quality achievement measures for the diagnosis and treatment of heart failure patients at a set level for a designated period. These measures include evaluation of the proper use of medications and aggressive risk-reduction therapies. Before discharge, patients should also receive education on managing their heart failure and overall health, get a follow-up visit scheduled, as well as other care transition interventions.

St. Mary's Regional Heart Institute was named a Center of Excellence by Mountain Health Network.

"St. Mary's is dedicated to improving the quality of care for our patients with heart failure by implementing the American Heart Association's *Get With The Guidelines*-HF initiative," said Shari Wiley, MSN, RN, APRN, FNP-BC, CHF, heart failure nurse



practitioner. "The tools and resources provided help us track and measure our success in meeting evidence-based clinical guidelines developed to improve patient outcomes."

SMMC is also recognized on the association's Target: Heart Failure® Honor Roll. Hospitals are required to meet specific criteria that improves medication adherence, provides early follow-up care and coordination and enhances patient education. The goal is to reduce hospital readmissions and help patients improve their quality of life in managing this chronic condition.

Additionally, SMMC received the Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll™ Award. To qualify for this recognition, hospitals must meet quality measures developed with more than 90% of compliance for 12 consecutive months for the Overall Diabetes Cardiovascular Initiative Composite Score.

"We are pleased to recognize St. Mary's for their commitment to heart failure care,"

said Lee H. Schwamm, MD, national chairperson of the Quality Oversight Committee and executive vice chair of Neurology, director of Acute Stroke Services, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts. "Research has shown that hospitals adhering to clinical measures through the *Get With The Guidelines* quality improvement initiative can often see fewer readmissions and lower mortality rates."

According to the American Heart Association, more than 6.5 million adults in the United States are living with heart failure. Many heart failure patients can lead a full, enjoyable life when their condition is managed with proper medications or devices and with healthy lifestyle changes.







## Healthgrades Recognizes Cabell Huntington Hospital as 5-Star Recipient for C-Section Delivery



Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH) is a 5-star recipient for C-Section Delivery as recognized by Healthgrades, the leading resource connecting consumers, physicians and health systems. This 5-star rating indicates that Cabell Huntington

Hospital clinical outcomes for C-Section Delivery are statistically significantly better than expected.



"While C-Section deliveries are the exception and not the norm, we are pleased to be recognized by Healthgrades as a leader in clinical outcomes for new moms and babies," stated Hoyt Burdick, MD, Chief Clinical Officer, Mountain Health Network. "The clinical teams are continuously working to improve the safety and quality and this quality award is a recognition of their commitment."

"Hospital quality should be top of mind for consumers when they evaluate and compare hospital performance," said

Brad Bowman, MD, chief medical officer, Healthgrades. "Women who select a hospital with a 5-star rating can feel confident in their choice knowing that these organizations are committed to providing exceptional care to their patients."

Healthgrades analyzed all-payer state data for 16 states for years 2016 through 2018. Healthgrades found that there is a significant variation in hospital quality between those that have received 5-stars and those that have not. For example, from 2016 through 2018, women having a C-Section Delivery in hospitals rated 5-stars have, on average, a 59% lower risk of experiencing a complication while in the hospital than if they were treated by hospitals rated 1-star.



# WELCOME NEW PHYSICIANS



## **Onyechi Megafu, MD, MPHIL – Pain Medicine**

**Medical School:** Drexel University

College of Medicine

**Residency:** Hahnemann University Hospital

**Fellowship:** Johns Hopkins Hospital/John Hopkins University School of Medicine



## **John Leidy, MD – Internal Medicine (endocrinology and metabolism)**

**Medical School:** University of Washington

**Residency:** Medical College of Pennsylvania

**Fellowship:** University of Colorado Health Science Center

*Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, Marshall University  
Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine*



## **Ashley Litchfield, MD – Emergency Medicine**

**Medical School:** Marshall University

**Residency:** Virginia Commonwealth University

**Fellowship:** Virginia Commonwealth University

*Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Marshall  
University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine*



## **Michael Gentile, DPM – Orthopedics (foot and ankle surgery)**

**Medical School:** California College of

Podiatric Medicine

**Residency:** Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center

*Assistant Professor, Department of Orthopedics, Marshall  
University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine*



## **Kristin Sinning, MD – OB/GYN**

**Medical School:** Wright State University

Boonshoft School of Medicine

**Residency:** Marshall University

*Instructor, Department of OB/GYN, Marshall University  
Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine*



## **Vickram Chauhan, DDS – Dentistry & Oral Surgery**

**Dental School:** Tufts University

**Residency:** Marshall University

*Assistant Professor, Department of Dentistry and Oral Surgery,  
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine*



## **Andrea Lauffer – Pediatrics**

**Medical School:** Marshall University

**Residency:** Marshall University

*Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine and  
Pediatrics, Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School  
of Medicine*



## **Joshua Hess – Pediatric Oncology**

**Medical School:** Marshall University

**Residency:** Marshall University

**Fellowship:** St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

*Assistant Professor, Department of Oncology and Pediatrics,  
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine*



## **Jared Scott Hollinger, MD – Neurology**

**Medical School:** Marshall University

**Residency:** Marshall University

**Fellowship:** Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center

*Assistant Professor, Department of Neurology,  
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine*



## **Shima Ghavimi, MD – Gastroenterology and Hepatology**

**Medical School:** Shahid Beheshti University  
School of Medicine

**Residency:** Howard University

**Fellowship:** Rutgers University

*Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine,  
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine*



## **Morgan Stickler, MD – Family Medicine**

**Medical School:** Marshall University

**Residency:** Marshall University

*Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine,  
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine*



## **Hesham Mohammed Awadh, MD, Internal Medicine**

**Medical School:** University of Jordan

**Residency:** Marshall University

**Fellowship:** Texas Health Science Center/  
MD Anderson Cancer Center

*Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine,  
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine*



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## St. Mary's Medical Center and HIMG Consummate Acquisition

St. Mary's Medical Center, a member of Mountain Health Network, and Huntington Internal Medicine Group (HIMG), an outpatient facility of SMMC, announced Sept. 1 that SMMC's acquisition of the assets of HIMG is complete.

"This transaction marks an important milestone for our community and Mountain Health Network's continued journey of achieving beneficial clinical integration," said Michael Mullins, FACHE, president and CEO of MHN. "We are pleased to continue that tremendous work of HIMG's founders and build on our shared history of working together to meet the health needs of the residents of our region."

SMMC filed an application with the West Virginia Health Care Authority (WVHCA) to review the transaction as part of the Certificate of Need (CON) process in May. The WVHCA approved the CON in July, determining that the acquisition is needed and without it, patients would experience serious problems in obtaining care.

"We are pleased to complete this transaction and begin integrating our services to better serve our patients," said Todd Campbell, president of SMMC. "St. Mary's and HIMG have a long-standing history of working together and we are looking forward to continuing that relationship as part of the same health care delivery system."



SMMC will maintain the HIMG name and HIMG physicians will continue to provide services at their current location on Route 60 in Huntington.

"From its beginnings 50 years ago, HIMG has grown into a provider of world-class medical services for the Tri-State," said Mark Morgan, president and COO of HIMG. "We are looking forward to this new partnership that will allow us to provide an even higher level of technology, access and quality medical services to our region."