



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
February 25, 2008

**SUNRISE HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER'S STROKE CARE PROGRAM  
AWARDED RECERTIFICATION FROM THE JOINT COMMISSION**

Las Vegas, NV – Sunrise Hospital & Medical Center has earned the Gold Seal of Approval™ from The Joint Commission for Primary Stroke Centers. Sunrise earned this distinction after the Joint Commission conducted an unannounced on-site review in February.

“Sunrise Hospital & Medical Center demonstrated that its stroke care program follows national standards and guidelines that can significantly improve outcomes for stroke patients,” says Jean E. Range, M.S., R.N., C.P.H.Q., executive director, Disease-Specific Care Certification, Joint Commission.

Each year about 700,000 people experience a new or recurrent stroke, which is the nation's third leading cause of death. On average, someone suffers a stroke every 45 seconds and someone dies of a stroke every 3.1 minutes. Stroke is a leading cause of serious, long-term disability in the United States, with about 4.7 million stroke survivors alive today.

“We're proud to have been the first in Nevada to receive this distinction as well as the first to be awarded recertification,” says Sylvia Young, president of Sunrise Health in HCA's Far West Division. “Joint Commission Primary Stroke Center Certification recognizes Sunrise's commitment to providing outstanding stroke care to our patients and our community.”

Sunrise Hospital & Medical Center was also recently awarded The American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines – Stroke Silver Performance Achievement Award. The award recognizes Sunrise Hospital's commitment and success in implementing a higher standard of stroke care by ensuring that stroke patients receive treatment according to nationally accepted standards and recommendations.

The Joint Commission's Primary Stroke Center Certification is based on the recommendations for primary stroke centers published by the Brain Attack Coalition and the American Stroke Association's statements/guidelines for stroke care. The Joint Commission launched the program—the nation's first—in 2003. A list of programs certified by the Joint Commission is available at [www.jointcommission.org](http://www.jointcommission.org).

**About The Joint Commission:**

Founded in 1951, The Joint Commission seeks to continuously improve the safety and quality of care provided to the public through the provision of health care accreditation and related services that support performance improvement in health care organizations. The Joint Commission evaluates and accredits more than 15,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States, including more than 8,000 hospitals and home care organizations, and more than 6,800 other health care organizations that provide long term care, assisted living, behavioral health care, laboratory and ambulatory care services.

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The Joint Commission also accredits health plans, integrated delivery networks, and other managed care entities. In addition, the Joint Commission provides certification of disease-specific care programs, primary stroke centers, and health care staffing services. An independent, not-for-profit organization, the Joint Commission is the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. Learn more about the Joint Commission at [www.jointcommission.org](http://www.jointcommission.org).

**About Sunrise Hospital:**

A Consumer Choice award-winning hospital for 12 consecutive years, Sunrise Hospital has provided the most sophisticated, quality healthcare for the people of Southern Nevada for nearly 50 years. A 701-bed acute care facility with comprehensive inpatient and outpatient services, the Sunrise medical complex includes The Nevada Neurosciences Institute, The Breast Center at Sunrise, **Nevada's first JCAHO accredited Primary Stroke Center**, an ACoS recognized Comprehensive Cancer Center, and specializes in women's and children's services; cardiovascular, oncology, medical, surgical and rehabilitation services, diagnostic imaging and 24-hour Trauma and Emergency care. Sharing the same campus, Sunrise Children's Hospital provides a parallel suite of highly specialized services to maternal moms, newborns and the youth of the southwest United States.

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