



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FROM: Communications Department
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**Upper Chesapeake Medical Center Primary Stroke Center
wins Silver Award**

Bel Air, MD - Upper Chesapeake Medical Center has been recognized as a **Get with the Guidelines, Silver Performance Award winner for Excellence in Stroke Care by the American Stroke and American Heart Association**. This award recognizes success in providing a high level of care to stroke patients by ensuring that they receive treatment according to nationally accepted standards. The silver award indicates that Upper Chesapeake has consistently complied for at least one year with the requirements in the Get with the Guidelines Program.

Get with the Guidelines is a quality improvement program that helps healthcare teams save lives by following evidence-based guidelines. These guidelines include appropriate use of medications such as TPA, antithrombotics, anticoagulation therapy, DVT prophylaxis, cholesterol reducing drugs and smoking cessation. These measures are aimed at reducing death and disability from stroke and improving the lives of stroke patients.

Stroke is the third leading cause of death in the United States, according to the American Stroke and American Heart Association. Across the nation, someone suffers from a stroke every 45 seconds and someone dies from a stroke every 3 minutes. Upper Chesapeake Health is a leading provider of state-of-the-art stroke treatment.

Local stroke survivor and advocate for stroke awareness, Phil Anderson, is organizing his 3rd annual Survivor Run at 8:00 am on Saturday, April 3, 2010 at the Ma and Pa Trail

in Bel Air. Upper Chesapeake Health is a proud sponsor of this race to help promote awareness for stroke symptoms and early treatment. For more information about this local 5k run please visit www.survivorrn.com.

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Established in 1984, Upper Chesapeake Health is a not-for-profit health organization based in Harford County. The organization owns and operates Upper Chesapeake Medical Center, Harford Memorial Hospital and Upper Chesapeake Health Foundation. One of the largest private employers in Harford County, Upper Chesapeake employs almost 3,000 team members. Visit www.uchs.org to learn more.