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***American Heart Association Recognizes CHRISTUS Good Shepherd Medical Center – Marshall’s  
Commitment to Quality Stroke Care***

**MARSHALL, TX (AUGUST 21, 2017)** – CHRISTUS Good Shepherd Medical Center - *Marshall* has received the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association’s Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award.

The award was given in recognition of CHRISTUS Good Shepherd Medical Center – *Marshall’s* commitment and success in ensuring stroke patients receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines based on the latest scientific evidence.

“It is our privilege and obligation to provide the highest quality and most compassionate care for our patients,” said Russ Collier, chief executive officer, CHRISTUS Good Shepherd Medical Center – *Marshall*. “This award from the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association is a well-deserved recognition of our team’s hard work and I would like to thank and congratulate the physicians, nurses, other providers, and staff whose dedication and expertise resulted in this achievement.”

According to the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association, stroke is the No. 5 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.

To receive the Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award, hospitals must achieve 85 percent or higher adherence to all Get With The Guidelines-Stroke achievement indicators for two or more consecutive 12-month periods and achieved 75 percent or higher compliance with five of eight Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Quality measures.

These quality measures are designed to help hospital teams provide the most up-to-date, evidence-based guidelines with the goal of speeding recovery and reducing death and disability for stroke

patients. They focus on appropriate use of guideline-based care for stroke patients, including aggressive use of medications such as clot-busting and anti-clotting drugs, blood thinners and cholesterol-reducing drugs, preventive action for deep vein thrombosis and smoking cessation counseling.

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***About CHRISTUS Good Shepherd Health System***

CHRISTUS Good Shepherd Health System sets the standard for health, wellness and state-of-the-art care in East Texas. The system includes medical centers in Longview and Marshall; CHRISTUS Trinity Clinic, a multispecialty physician network; freestanding emergency centers; a full range of outpatient services; and medically integrated wellness facilities. For more information, please visit [www.christusgoodshepherd.org](http://www.christusgoodshepherd.org).

***About Get With The Guidelines®***

Get With The Guidelines® is the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association'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 6 million patients since 2001. For more information, visit [heart.org](http://heart.org).