

# P R E S S   R E L E A S E

JULY 29, 2009



**GRAND LAKE™**  
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WAPAKONETA MEDICAL CENTER
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## **JOINT TOWNSHIP DISTRICT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL RECOGNIZED AGAIN AS ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S TOP 1% OF ALL HOSPITALS**

Joint Township District Memorial Hospital has once again been recognized by the Premier healthcare alliance as a winner of the Premier Award for Quality (AFQ). Joint Township District Memorial Hospital is one of 23 winners out of more than 3,796 eligible hospitals nationwide. Joint Township District Memorial Hospital was also honored with this award in 2007.

The AFQ recognizes leading healthcare organizations that efficiently provide outstanding patient care and consistently set the standard in clinical excellence nationwide. Distinguished by its consideration of performance-based criteria, including clinical quality outcomes, resource utilization and clinical process indicators, the AFQ measures top performers at the overall hospital level.

"Joint Township District Memorial Hospital prides itself on the quality of care we provide to our patients as a result of our ongoing efforts to improve our care delivery systems, as well as our focus on patient-centered care," said Kevin Harlan, CEO of Grand Lake Health System. "This award recognizes the exemplary care that our staff delivers to each and every patient we serve."

"The Award for Quality honors the efforts of our nation's leading hospitals to provide superior quality and operational efficiency," said Susan DeVore, Premier incoming President and CEO. "We're thrilled to celebrate the efforts of these facilities as they improve the health of the communities they serve."

All acute care inpatient facilities in the United States that submitted data to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the CMS Hospital Compare project were considered for the AFQ. Using MedPar 2007 data, Quality and Efficiency Indexes were calculated for 60 disease groups and at the overall hospital level. Quality was measured by the incidence of three adverse outcomes: mortality, morbidity and complications, which are combined into a single Quality Index using the preference weightings from the Corporate Hospital Rating Project (CHRP). The efficiency index was generated using length of stay to proxy for resource utilization.

Acute care facilities attaining the Top 1% designation are identified as having scores in the top two quintiles for process of care, in ten out of 60 disease groups and at the overall hospital level for quality and efficiency. Additionally, hospitals had measures for quality and efficiency that were equal to or exceeded expected outcomes.

Additional information about the AFQ and related methodology can be found at [www.premierinc.com/about/news/awards/index.jsp](http://www.premierinc.com/about/news/awards/index.jsp).

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## **ABOUT JOINT TOWNSHIP DISTRICT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, AN AFFILIATE OF GRAND LAKE HEALTH SYSTEM**

Giving area residents a choice in quality medical care close to home, Joint Township District Memorial Hospital opened its doors in St. Marys, Ohio on May 5, 1953. At the time, the one-story facility housed 50 beds and employed 30 staff members. Today, the hospital has grown to become the anchor facility of Grand Lake Health System which includes over 800+ medical professionals, 150 physicians, 13 affiliates and 10 Centers of Excellence — and continues its commitment to providing exceptional quality medical care.

Joint Township District Memorial Hospital's Centers of Excellence offer state-of-the-art equipment and procedures and, along with the development of programs utilizing advanced technologies, are able to bring the best in healthcare to residents of the Grand Lake region. These Centers of Excellence include Emergency Center, Urgent Care, Cardiac Center, Home Health and Hospice, Birthing Center, Transitional Care Unit, Inpatient Rehab Unit, Surgical Center, Outpatient Center and Women's Imaging Center. Services available through the hospital include OB/Gyn, laboratory services, outpatient clinic, medical imaging, hospice and acute palliative care, occupational health services, occupational therapy, stroke support groups, rehab services, observation status, physical therapy, speech therapy, direct access testing and more.

Joint Township District Memorial Hospital feels it is their responsibility as a healthcare organization to reach out to the communities in the region that support it. The hospital provides a variety of convenient outreach programs that promote good health among all area citizens — not just patients. The goal of these programs is to educate people so they gain the skills and knowledge to keep themselves and those around them healthy. Joint Township District Memorial Hospital also involves the community through its many fulfilling volunteer opportunities.

Another important way that Joint Township District Memorial Hospital aids the surrounding community is through the efforts of the JTD Hospital Foundation, which secures funds for the benefit of Joint Township District Memorial Hospital's efforts to meet the healthcare needs of the communities it serves. The Foundation is the vehicle for community-wide support for a full range of community and patient-based services with funding efforts focused on programs, services and equipment. Recently the Foundation spearheaded completion of the hospital's birthing center, expanded emergency room, new cardiac center along with renovation of the transitional care and inpatient rehabilitation units.

For more information about Joint Township District Memorial Hospital, visit online at [www.grandlakehealth.org](http://www.grandlakehealth.org).