



When a patient with stroke is rushed to Berkshire Medical Center, a healthcare team quickly begins assembling that may ultimately include expertise from nearly every discipline in the hospital. Together they chart the course of care, giving their patient the best chance of recovering to the highest level possible.

Berkshire Medical Center is Ranked Among the Top Five Hospitals in Massachusetts by HealthGrades for the Treatment of Stroke

HealthGrades 2009 ratings for BMC Stroke Services:

- *BMC is five-star rated for the treatment of stroke for three years in a row*



"I'm always amazed at the number of people who contribute to the care of a single patient," said Alexander S. Kloman, MD, Medical Director of the BMC Stroke Program. "This program has flourished because the right people are doing all of the right things. There is no one person making this all work. It's an incredible group effort that's evolved over the years."

In the process, the stroke team has created a seamless initiative that includes early intervention, expert care in the Emergency Department, aggressive inpatient care, rehabilitation services and follow-up after leaving the hospital. Stroke awareness and education in the community are a priority for the team.

In 2004, BMC was the first hospital in the country to receive the American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines Performance Achievement Award for the treatment of stroke patients, and remains the only hospital in the U.S. to achieve this honor for five consecutive years.

"BMC is located in a fairly unique setting where medical care and interventions, such as stroke care, can be independently monitored and measured by the state DPH," said Dr. Kloman. "We see growing evidence that our care is making a positive impact on the health of community residents."