

Berkshire Medical Center is a Top Performer in Heart Attack Care



BMC is five-star rated for the treatment of heart attack for three years in a row.

The treatment for heart attack illustrates how a system of appropriate interventions given at the appropriate times will result in better patient outcomes. “At BMC, we focus on all interventions that the latest evidence tells us will make a difference,” said Gray Ellrodt, MD, Chairman of the Department of Medicine. “We’ve built systems around that information that make it very difficult to do the wrong thing, and very easy to do the right thing, every time.”

All along the way, there are multiple checks built in so that the right interventions always take place. “This is how we save lives in our community,” Dr. Ellrodt continued. “How we care for heart attack patients is a perfect example of what happens when you provide all of the right interventions 100% of the time, year after year.”

The American Heart Association’s Get With The Guidelines program is driving the campaign to develop systems around cardiovascular care, and BMC is one of only four hospitals in the U.S. to achieve Triple Gold recognition for outstanding performance in coronary artery disease, heart failure and stroke.

“There is no substitute for a leader like Dr. Ellrodt, who continues to drive the process forward,” said Jeffrey A. Leppo, MD, Division Chief of Cardiology. Heart attack patients are under the care of Dr. Leppo and 11 other cardiologists who manage medication and treatment. “How do we get better?” he asked. “By staying at 100% compliance with the guidelines forever.”

BMC’s award-winning Cardiac Rehabilitation Program is another reason survival statistics are so impressive. This group of professionals helps assure that life-saving interventions are reinforced and continued throughout the patient’s recovery.

Dr. Ellrodt noted that BMC is out-performing many large prestigious hospitals. “The message to our community is this: the best healthcare is available right around the corner.”

