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STUDY PUTS KETTERING MEDICAL CENTER IN TOP 5% FOR STROKE CARE

*KMC Receives Specialty Excellence Award from Leading
Healthcare Independent Ratings Organization*

KETTERING, OH (October 13, 2009) – Kettering Medical Center is among the top 5 percent in the nation for stroke care according to a study issued today by HealthGrades, the leading independent healthcare ratings organization. The nation's nearly 5,000 nonfederal hospitals were all included in the sweeping study, which examined mortality rates and complication rates from government data from 2006, 2007 and 2008.

As a result, Kettering Medical Center received the 2010 the HealthGrades Stroke Care Excellence Award™. Additional 2010 clinical achievements include:

- Ranked Sixth in the Country for Treatment of Stroke
- Five-Star Rated for Treatment of Stroke
- Five-Star Rated for Treatment of Heart Failure
- Recipient of the HealthGrades Women's Health Excellence Award™ 2009/2010
- Ranked Among the Top 5% in the Nation for Women's Health 2009/2010
- Five-Star Rated for Women's Health 2009/2010

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“This independent assessment of our quality is very significant because it is based on Medicare’s national database and it charts performance for an extended period of time,” said Roy Chew, PhD, President of Kettering Medical Center. “It is our mission to improve the quality of life for the people in the communities we serve. These findings illustrate how our doctors, nurses and support staff are taking that mission to heart and committing to quality outcomes.”

The HealthGrades twelfth annual *Hospital Quality in America* study, the largest annual report of its kind, analyzed patient outcomes from nearly 40 million Medicare hospitalization records. Top-performing hospitals had dramatically lower mortality rates than other hospitals, according to the study. For the 17 procedures and diagnoses for which HealthGrades analyzed mortality rates, patients at top hospitals had a 72 percent lower chance of dying when compared with the lowest-performing hospitals, and a 52 percent lower chance of dying when compared to the U.S. national average.

HealthGrades Ratings

HealthGrades rates hospitals independently based on data that hospitals submit to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. No hospital can opt in or out of being rated, and no hospital pays to be rated.

For 28 procedures and treatments, HealthGrades issues star ratings that reflect the mortality and complication rates for each category of care. Hospitals receiving a 5-star rating have mortality or complication rates that are below the national average, to a statistically significant degree. A 3-star rating means the hospital performs as expected. One-star ratings indicate the hospital’s mortality or complication rates in that procedure or treatment are statistically higher than average. Because the risk profiles of patient populations at hospitals are not alike, HealthGrades risk-adjusts the data to allow for apples-to-apples comparisons.

More information on today’s HealthGrades study, including the complete methodology, can be found at www.healthgrades.com.