



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Sacred Heart Recognized for Care of Heart Failure**

Pensacola, Fla. – Sacred Heart Hospital has received the American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines – Heart Failure Silver Plus Quality Achievement Award for its commitment to ensuring heart failure patients received the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized guidelines.

The goal of the Get With The Guidelines initiative is speeding recovery and reducing hospital readmissions for heart failure patients. Sacred Heart is part of Ascension, the nation's largest nonprofit health system.

According to the American Heart Association, more than 6.5 million adults in the United States are living with heart failure. Many heart failure patients can lead a full, enjoyable life when their condition is managed with proper medications or devices and with healthy lifestyle changes.

The Heart Failure Silver Plus Quality Achievement Award is an advanced level of recognition acknowledging Sacred Heart Hospital's consistent compliance with Quality Measures. Sacred Heart Hospital earned the award by meeting specific quality achievement measures for the diagnosis and treatment of heart failure patients at a set level for a designated period. These measures include evaluation of the proper use of medications and aggressive risk-reduction therapies. Before discharge, patients should also receive education on managing their heart failure and overall health, get a follow-up visit scheduled, as well as other care transition interventions.

"We are honored to receive this award because it shows our dedication to improving the quality of care for our patients with heart failure by implementing the American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines – HF initiative," said Dr. Rohit Amin, medical director of the Heart Failure Clinic at SHH. "The tools and resources provided help us track and measure our success in meeting evidenced-based clinical guidelines developed to improve patient outcomes."

An AHA representative will present the award to Dr. Amin on June 6 at 5:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Hospital.

### **About Sacred Heart**

In Florida, Ascension operates Sacred Heart Health based in Pensacola and St. Vincent's HealthCare based in Jacksonville. Together, Ascension operates seven hospitals and more than 100 other sites of care, and they employ nearly 10,000 associates. Across the region, Sacred Heart and St. Vincent's have served North Florida communities for more than 145 years. In fiscal year 2017, they provided \$168 million in community benefit and care of persons living in poverty. Ascension ([www.ascension.org](http://www.ascension.org)) is a faith-based healthcare organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As the largest non-profit health system in the U.S. and the world's largest Catholic health system, Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. Ascension includes approximately 165,000 associates and 34,000 aligned providers. Ascension's Healthcare Division operates more than 2,600 sites of care – including 153 hospitals and more than 50 senior living facilities – in 22 states and the District of Columbia. For more information on Sacred Heart Health System, visit [www.sacred-heart.org](http://www.sacred-heart.org).