



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 12, 2018

Contact: Kelsi Gulig
(850) 416-1157

Free Women and Stroke Night at Sacred Heart Hospital Pensacola

PENSACOLA, Fla. – More women than men suffer strokes, and when stroke strikes, women are more likely to die or suffer long-term complications than men, according to the [Office on Women's Health at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services](#). Within five years of having a stroke, more women than men suffer [another stroke](#).

“This is partly due to the fact that women live longer than men,” said Terry Neill, MD, critical care [neurologist](#) and medical director of the Sacred Heart Regional Stroke Center. “But we know that age is not the whole story because women between the ages of 45 and 54 are also more likely to have a stroke than their male counterparts.”

Some risk factors for stroke – such as diabetes, atrial fibrillation (irregular heartbeat) and certain types of migraines – are more common in women than men.

To learn more about the risk for stroke in women, Sacred Heart’s team of [neuroscience](#), [cardiology](#) and [women’s health](#) doctors will host a free “Women and Stroke Night” on Tuesday, October 23 in the hospital’s Greenhut Auditorium, located at 5151 N. Ninth Ave. Guests are advised to park and enter near the Main Entrance facing Ninth Avenue.

Free screenings – including non-fasting cholesterol, glucose, blood pressure and stroke risk assessments – will be offered from 4:30 to 6 p.m. A heart-healthy dinner will be served, and physician lectures will begin at 6 p.m.

Featured physician speakers include:

- “Introduction to Stroke” by [Terry Neill, MD](#), critical care neurologist and medical director of the Sacred Heart Regional Stroke Center
- “Treating Stroke: Women and Neurosurgery” by [Maria Toledo, MD](#), endovascular neurosurgeon with Sacred Heart Medical Group
- “Unique Stroke Risk Factors in Women” by Julie DeCesare, MD, OB-GYN with Sacred Heart Hospital
- “Preventing Stroke: Women and Heart Health” by [Mark Grise, MD](#), cardiologist with Sacred Heart Medical Group

Seating is limited. Reservations are required. To register, please call Sacred Heart at 850-416-1600, Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

About Sacred Heart Health System

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) 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.

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