

AHA Recognizes Virtua Heart Failure Care



Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital has received the American Heart Association's (AHA) 2021 Gold Plus Get With The Guidelines-Heart Failure Quality Achievement Award for our commitment to caring for patients living with heart failure.

The award recognizes Virtua's commitment to ensuring people with heart failure receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines founded in the latest scientific evidence. The goal is speeding recovery and reducing hospital readmissions for heart failure patients.

"We are dedicated to improving the quality of care for our patients with heart failure by implementing evidence-based guidelines, including medications, attention to diet and exercise, and implantable internal defibrillators and monitoring devices such as CardioMems," said Theresa Rowe, director of the Virtua Heart Failure Program. "The end goal is to ensure more people in South Jersey can experience longer, healthier lives."

"We are pleased to recognize Virtua for their commitment to heart failure care," said Dr. Clyde W. Yancy, national chairperson of the AHA Heart Failure systems of care advisory group and chief, division of cardiology at Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine. "Hospitals that follow Get with the Guidelines protocols often see fewer readmissions and lower mortality rates—a win for health care systems, families, and communities."

Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes also received the association's Target: Type 2 Honor Roll award. To qualify for this recognition, hospitals must meet quality measures developed with more than 90% of compliance for 12 consecutive months for the "Overall Diabetes Cardiovascular Initiative Composite Score."