



NOTICE

Primary Stroke Centers, Comprehensive Stroke Centers, Acute Stroke-Ready Hospitals and Thrombectomy-Capable Stroke Centers

On June 12, 2017, Governor Wolf signed Act 4 of 2017. This act created two additional classifications of stroke care at acute care hospitals. Acute care hospitals may now be designated as Comprehensive Stroke Centers or Acute Stroke-Ready Hospitals, as well as the existing classification of Primary Stroke Centers. Pursuant to Act 4, the Department of Health (Department) will recognize hospitals as Primary Stroke Centers, Comprehensive Stroke Centers or Acute Stroke-Ready Hospitals upon submission of an application demonstrating that the hospital is certified as one of the three classifications by the Joint Commission or another nationally recognized accreditation organization. The designation shall last as long as the hospital remains certified by the accreditation organization unless the designation is suspended or revoked by the Department. Act 4 took effect on Aug. 11, 2017.

While Act 4 of 2017 specifically identified Primary Stroke Centers, Comprehensive Stroke Centers, and Acute-Stroke Ready Hospitals the Department recognizes the Joint Commission's implementation of Thrombectomy-Capable Stroke Centers (TSC). With the collective goal of optimizing public health through the reduction of healthcare disparities the Department has updated the application to include these Thrombectomy-Capable Stroke Centers. These facilities will be listed on a comparable list published on the Department's website.

Hospitals seeking recognition as a Primary Stroke Center, Comprehensive Stroke Center, Acute Stroke-Ready Hospital, or Thrombectomy-Capable Stroke Centers can obtain an application by contacting the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services at 717-787-8740 or by going to the Department's website at www.health.pa.gov. Hospitals will be required to provide evidence of designation as one of the three types of stroke centers by the Joint Commission or another nationally recognized accreditation organization. Any questions concerning the application process may be sent to: Lori A. Driscoll at lodriscoll@pa.gov.

Persons with a disability who require an alternative format of this notice (for example, large print, audiotope, Braille) should contact Lori A. Driscoll. Speech or hearing-impaired persons may use VTT: 717-783-6514 or the Pennsylvania AT&T Relay Service at 1-800-654-5984.