

St. Joseph Mercy Oakland news

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SJMO Goes Live with The Michigan Stroke Network



St. Joseph Mercy Oakland (SJMO), Michigan's first certified primary stroke center, launches a collaborative network of hospitals to provide innovative stroke care across the state. Through the use of Remote Presence™ Robotics, the network ensures that hospitals across Michigan, regardless of their size, location or resources, can offer every patient the most advanced stroke care available. Founded by Trinity Health, the Michigan Stroke Network becomes active on November 1, 2006.

"SJMO recognizes that an estimated 200,000 people in the state of Michigan alone currently live with the effects of a stroke," said Jack Weiner, president and chief executive officer of SJMO. "Because stroke is the third leading cause of death in the United States and a leading cause of long-term disability, SJMO constructed an aggressive approach that guarantees care for any hospital participating in the network."

Member hospitals receive education and training for all staff providing emergent stroke care, access to rapid transport (helicopter and ambulance) and around-the-clock access to neuroendovascular (stroke) specialists through the use of a Remote Presence Robot. SJMO stroke specialists seated at a computer Control Station connect via the internet to robots located in any emergency room within the Michigan Stroke Network and consult with patients and physicians. The Michigan Stroke Network includes 22 hospitals across the state and is still growing.

"St. Joseph Mercy Oakland is committed to serving our community. This Remote Presence technology is redefining the geographic boundaries of our community; expanding it every day," says Weiner. "We have some of the best expertise in stroke treatment and prevention in the nation—this is our opportunity to be a good neighbor and share our expertise with patients in need of care across the state."

A stroke occurs when a blood vessel in the brain becomes blocked or bursts. The result can be as serious as brain damage or death. Because prompt treatment is essential, member hospitals in the Michigan Stroke Network have 24-hour-a-day access to highly specialized neuroendovascular technology that can mean the difference between life and death for stroke victims. Remote Presence Robots enables highly trained specialists to be in any MSN member's emergency room within minutes of a consultation request. This consultative approach improves timely access to specialty care thereby reducing the need for travel and unnecessary patient transports.

Below is a list of participating hospitals to date. The list is growing every day.

<u>Hospital Name</u>	<u>City</u>
Mercy General Health Partners (General Campus)	Muskegon
St. Joseph Mercy Oakland	Pontiac

St. Joseph's Healthcare	Clinton Township
St. Mary Mercy Hospital	Livonia
Mercy Hospital, Port Huron	Port Huron
Battle Creek Health System	Battle Creek
St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Ann Arbor	Ypsilanti
Saint Joseph Mercy Hospital Saline	Saline
Saint Joseph Mercy Hospital Livingston	Howell
Kalkaska Memorial Health Center	Kalkaska
Mercy Hospital Cadillac	Cadillac
Mercy Hospital Grayling	Grayling
Munson Medical Center	Traverse City
Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital	Frankfort
West Shore Medical Center	Manistee
Deckerville Community Hospital	Deckerville
Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital	Pontiac
Crittenton Hospital	Rochester
McKenzie Memorial Hospital	Sandusky
*Hills and Dales General Hospital	Cass City
Saint Mary's Health Care	Grand Rapids
*Harbor Beach Community Hospital	Harbor Beach

*Recently added network participant

St. Joseph Mercy Oakland is a 428-bed comprehensive community hospital and a long-time leader in health care in Oakland County. SJMO is the headquarters of the Michigan Stroke Network providing the best expertise in stroke treatment to patients across the state. The hospital is located on the west side of Woodward, just north of Square Lake Road in Pontiac, Mich. It is a member of Trinity Health, the fourth largest Catholic health care system in the United States. Visit SJMO online at www.stjoesoakland.org

InTouch Health® is a privately held company based in Santa Barbara, CA. The company is pioneering remote presence technology for hospital providers. Through a proprietary communications and mobile robotic platform, the RP-7 Remote Presence Robotic System, doctors are able to consult with hospital-based patients and staff more easily and frequently. The InTouch Health solution leverages the time and expertise of healthcare professionals across multiple care facilities, improving the efficiency and effectiveness of care delivery. For more information, please visit www.intouchhealth.com

Based in Novi, Mich., Trinity Health is the country's fourth largest Catholic health care system based on operating revenue. Sponsored by Catholic Health Ministries, the system operates 45 hospitals (30 owned, 15 managed), 384 outpatient facilities, numerous long-term care facilities, and home health offices and hospice programs. Trinity Health also owns and operates Care Choices, a health maintenance organization, and Preferred Choices, a preferred provider organization. Trinity Health-Michigan includes 10 hospitals serving 35 counties, providing care to one out of 10 Michigan residents needing inpatient services. Employing approximately 45,000 full-time staff, Trinity Health reported \$5.7 billion in unrestricted revenue and more than \$401 million in community benefit ministry in fiscal year 2005. For more information about Trinity Health, visit www.trinity-health.org Information taken from the Great Lakes Regional Stroke Network and is available on the Web at www.glrnsn.ulc.edu.

American Heart Association. 2002 Heart and Stroke Statistical Update. Dallas, TX: American Heart Association: 2001.