



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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For More Information Contact
Public Relations at 508.236.8020

**Sturdy Memorial Hospital Earns *Top Performer on Key Quality Measures*®
Recognition from The Joint Commission**

ATTLEBORO, MA, November 1, 2013 – Sturdy Memorial Hospital has been named one of the nation's *Top Performers on Key Quality Measures*® by The Joint Commission, the leading accreditor of health care organizations in America. Sturdy was recognized by The Joint Commission for exemplary performance in using evidence-based clinical processes that are shown to improve care for certain conditions.

This is the second consecutive year that Sturdy has earned this distinction. Sturdy was one of 1,099 hospitals in the U.S. to be named a *Top Performer on Key Quality Measures* for attaining and sustaining excellence in accountability measure performance. Specifically, Sturdy was recognized for its achievement on the following measure sets: heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, and surgical care. The ratings are based on an aggregation of accountability measure data reported to The Joint Commission during the 2012 calendar year. The list of *Top Performers* represents 33 percent of accredited hospitals reporting accountability measure performance data for 2012. This is an increase from 2011, when only 18.4 percent of accredited hospitals, including Sturdy, were a *Top Performer on Key Quality Measures*.

Sturdy and the other hospitals that were named as a *Top Performer on Key Quality Measures*: 1) achieved cumulative performance of 95 percent or above across all reported accountability measures; 2) achieved performance of 95 percent or above on each and every reported accountability measure where there were at least 30 denominator cases; and 3) had at least one core measure set that had a composite rate of 95 percent or above, and within that measure set all applicable individual accountability measures had a performance rate of 95 percent or above. A 95 percent score means a hospital provided an evidence-based practice 95 times out of 100 opportunities. Each accountability measure represents an evidence-based practice, e.g.: ensuring antibiotics are given prophylactically to surgical patients within one hour prior to surgical incision.

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“We are extremely proud to be recognized for a second consecutive year by The Joint Commission as a *Top Performer on Key Quality Measures*,” says Linda Shyavitz, Sturdy Memorial Hospital President and CEO. Our commitment to ensuring the people in our communities have access to safe, exceptional medical care close to where they live and work has never been stronger.”

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