

Richard Whitley, M.S.
Administrator

Tracey D. Green, M.D.
State Health Officer



Contact Name: Martha Framsted, PIO
Phone Number: 775.684.4014
Release Date: June 6, 2011
Page 1 of 1

NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION

NEWS RELEASE

Signing of Bill About Strokes is Good News for Nevadans

Comprehensive Stroke Profile for Nevada Released

Carson City - Senate Bill 225, requiring Nevada hospitals that are certified as primary stroke centers to annually submit annual proof of certification to the State Health Division, was signed by the Governor on Saturday, June 4. Sponsored by Senator Barbara Cegavske, the bill authorizes the Nevada Health Division to annually certify and post on the Internet a list of which hospitals in Nevada have current primary stroke center designation. Hospitals can earn primary stroke center status from the Joint Commission or an equivalent organization if they meet a number of strict requirements regarding their capabilities to treat stroke patients. The bill also forbids hospitals not certified by the State Health Division as a primary stroke center from advertising otherwise.

“Essentially, this legislation will make it perfectly clear to Nevadans requiring stroke treatment where the centers for excellence are located,” said Richard Whitley, Health Division Administrator. “Certified primary stroke centers are fully equipped to handle all aspects of stroke.”

In conjunction with the signing, the Nevada State Health Division announced today that it has released the “Nevada Comprehensive Profile for Stroke Prevention 2011.” The 29-page booklet is available on the Health Division website at <http://health.nv.gov/>, in the What’s New section. The report was used during the 2011 Nevada Legislature to emphasize the importance of passing SB 225. The bill was endorsed by the State Health Division and the American Heart Association.

The “Nevada Comprehensive Profile for Stroke Prevention 2011” contains an introduction explaining stroke risk factors and signs and symptoms of a stroke; a discussion about the types of stroke; and information about stroke treatment. The second section is an analysis of Nevada stroke data along with its epidemiological implications. Stroke prevalence, hospitalization, and mortality trends are explained with colorful charts and graphs. The economic impact of strokes in Nevada is also discussed.

The last chapter in the report proposes the importance of Nevada having an Integrated System for Stroke Prevention, essentially a statewide stroke prevention plan. Currently, several states are in the process of implementing stroke prevention plans, which address and coordinate the prevention, early detection, and case management of strokes. For more information about strokes, visit www.cdc.gov/stroke/.

###



Richard Whitley, Administrator

4150 Technology Way, Suite 300 Carson City, Nevada 89706
Phone (775) 684-4200, Fax (775) 684-4211
NEVADA STATE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER