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## **ACHC Benchmarking Review Shows Continued Quality Gains Across Certified Stroke Centers**

### *Data Show Improvement Across 11 of 17 Core Performance Measures*

**CARY, N.C. (June 17, 2026)** — The Accreditation Commission for Health Care ([ACHC](#)) has released its “Benchmarking Quality: Review of 2025 Performance in ACHC-certified Stroke Centers,” a review of performance data from ACHC-certified stroke programs nationwide. The [report](#) summarizes and analyzes quality measures collected by Stroke Ready, Primary Stroke, Thrombectomy Stroke and Comprehensive Stroke Centers to support cohort comparison and provide tips to standardize quality care.

The report found that ACHC-certified stroke centers continue to meet or exceed national benchmarks across most performance measures. Of the 17 core measures evaluated across certification programs, 11 improved compared with the previous benchmarking report, while only two declined and three remained steady.

As THE Standard for Modern Accreditation, ACHC believes accreditation should serve as a catalyst for continuous improvement by helping organizations measure performance, identify opportunities and share best practices that enhance patient care.

“Benchmarking data provide stroke programs with valuable insight into how they are performing relative to their peers and where there are opportunities to enhance processes,” said Deanna Scatena, RN, BSN, Director, Hospital Programs at ACHC. “The results of this year's report demonstrate the ongoing commitment of ACHC-certified stroke centers to delivering high-quality, evidence-based care while continuously striving for better patient outcomes.”

Among the report's findings:

- 11 of 17 core performance measures improved compared with the prior benchmarking report.
- Provision of patient education increased significantly, with 92% of ACHC-certified programs meeting or exceeding the benchmark, up from 83% in 2023.
- Performance for time from patient presentation to administration of IV therapy advanced across key treatment measures, including the percentage of programs meeting the 45- and 60-minute benchmarks.

- Neuroimaging turnaround times improved, with 80% of certified programs meeting or exceeding the benchmark, compared with 77% previously.
- Timing of stroke team arrival at the patient’s bedside within 15 minutes rose to 93% of programs meeting or exceeding the benchmark, up from 89% in 2023.

The report also identifies opportunities, including in dysphagia screening performance, reinforcing ACHC’s commitment to helping stroke programs strengthen care delivery through education, collaboration and ongoing quality efforts.

“Performance measures provide an objective assessment of care delivery, but behind every benchmark is an opportunity that impacts lives,” added Scatena. “Even a single percentage point difference can represent a better outcome for patients and their families. ACHC remains committed to supporting stroke centers through education, collaboration and practical resources that help these organizations achieve excellence in stroke care.”

To review the full report, [click here](#). For more information about ACHC Stroke Certification programs, visit [www.achc.org](http://www.achc.org).

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### **About ACHC**

ACHC is **THE Standard** for Modern Accreditation. For more than 40 years, ACHC has helped healthcare organizations achieve excellence through a collaborative, educational approach to accreditation and certification. As a nonprofit accreditation organization, ACHC partners with providers across the continuum of care to improve quality, strengthen operations and advance patient outcomes.

Combining rigorous standards with personalized guidance and industry-leading educational resources, ACHC is **THE Smart, Modern Choice** for organizations that expect more from their accreditor.

For information about ACHC, visit [achc.org](http://achc.org).