St. Clair Hospital Is Among Nation’s ‘100 Most Wired’ Hospitals

MT. LEBANON, Pa. (July 12, 2012) — Hospitals & Health Networks magazine’s 2012 Most Wired Survey and Benchmarking Study has named St. Clair Hospital among the nation’s “100 Most Wired” hospitals.

Nearly 1,600 health systems applied this year for recognition as America’s Most Wired health care providers. St. Clair was among 154 selected for the recognition.

The magazine makes its selection based on progress in adoption, implementation and use of information technology in four key areas: infrastructure; business and administrative management; clinical quality and safety; and care continuum (i.e., use of information technology in multiple clinical settings).

According to Hospitals & Health Networks magazine, “Most Wired” hospitals have implemented systems to ensure quality patient care. For example:

- 97 percent of “Most Wired” hospitals have drug formulary checks, compared to just 85 percent of overall hospitals;
- 100 percent of “Most Wired” hospitals have drug interaction alerts, compared to 88 percent of overall hospitals;
• 93 percent of “Most Wired” hospitals employ intrusion detection systems to protect patient privacy and security of patient data, compared to 77 percent of overall hospitals;
• 74 percent of “Most Wired” hospitals use automated patient flow systems, compared to 57 percent of overall hospitals; and
• 90 percent of “Most Wired” hospitals use performance improvement scorecards to help reduce inefficiencies, compared to 73 percent of overall hospitals.

Joining St. Clair on this year’s list are such notable institutions as Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (one of the Harvard teaching hospitals) in Boston; Geisinger Health System in Danville, Pa.; Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville; and Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

“At St. Clair Hospital, Information Technology, or IT, performs an integral role in fostering patient engagement and enhancing the patient’s experience,” said Richard Schaeffer, Chief Information Officer, St. Clair Hospital. “It occurs at every stage in the patient stay, from having advanced technology to aid patient identification at registration, to deploying mobile technology to enable bedside reporting, to optimizing the format of discharge instructions to ensure there is two-way communication between patient and nurse, to making records available after discharge through the patient portal. All of these technologies enhance the patient’s ability to take an active role in more effectively managing his or her own care.”

St. Clair Hospital being included on Hospitals & Health Networks Most Wired Hospitals list comes on the heels of Thomson Reuters naming St. Clair one of the nation’s 100 Top Hospitals. The prestigious award was based on an analysis of St. Clair’s patient safety, clinical outcomes, patient satisfaction and clinical efficiency, all key indicators of performance excellence.
About St. Clair Hospital
St. Clair Hospital is an independent, acute care facility that provides advanced, high quality health care to more than 400,000 residents of southwestern Pennsylvania. With 525 physicians and more than 2,000 employees, St. Clair is the largest employer in Pittsburgh’s South Hills. Providing virtually every health care service that residents might need throughout their lives, the Hospital combines advanced technologies with exceptional medical expertise to ensure that the community’s health needs are met. For more information, please visit www.stclair.org.

About Hospitals & Health Networks magazine
Hospitals & Health Networks is a publication of the American Hospital Association, which sponsors the Most Wired award in conjunction with the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives, AT&T, and McKesson. The award is in its thirteenth year.