**SAMPLE NEWS RELEASE**

**Certification template for Acute Heart Attack Ready, Acute Stroke Ready, Advanced Heart Failure, Comprehensive Cardiac, Comprehesive Stroke, Primary Heart Attack Center, Primary Stroke and Thrombectomy-Capable programs**

(Insert media contact information)

**(Organization name) awarded (program name) Certification from The Joint Commission**

(CITY, State, Date) – (Organization name) has earned The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval® and the American (Heart or Stroke) Association’s Heart-Check mark for (program name) Certification.

(Organization name) underwent a rigorous, unannounced onsite review on (date). During the visit, a team of Joint Commission reviewers evaluated compliance with related certification standards including (insert most relevant standards areas – examples include: program management, supporting self-management, and delivering and facilitating clinical care). Joint Commission standards are developed in consultation with health care experts and providers, measurement experts and patients. The reviewers also conducted onsite observations and interviews.

“(Program name) Certification recognizes health care organizations committed to fostering continuous improvement in patient safety and quality of care,” says Deborah Ryan, MS, RN, interim executive vice president, Accreditation and Certification Operations, The Joint Commission. “We commend (organization name) for using certification to reduce variation in its clinical processes and to strengthen its program structure and management framework for (cardiac or stroke) patients.”

“We congratulate (organization name) for this outstanding achievement,” says Nancy Brown, chief executive officer, the American (Heart or Stroke) Association. “This certification reflects its commitment to providing the highest quality of care for (cardiac or stroke) patients.”

(Insert quote from organization leader)

(Insert specific examples of how organization prepared for certification process and/or specific certification’s eligibility requirements)

For more information, please visit [The Joint Commission website](https://www.jointcommission.org/).

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(Insert organization boilerplate)