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## Fort Sanders Regional named to national list of '100 Hospitals with Great Oncology Programs'

For the second year in a row, Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center has been named to a national list of "100 Hospitals and Health Systems with Great Oncology Programs" by Becker's Hospital Review.

Becker's Hospital Review is a publication that provides hospital business news and analysis for hospital and health system executives. For this list, the Becker's editorial team selected hospitals and health systems that lead the way in oncology expertise, outcomes, research and treatment options. The editorial team used rankings, ratings, designations and outstanding achievement awards for the specialty from resources such as U.S. News & World Report, CareChex, BlueCross BlueShield Association, National Cancer Institute and American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer. Becker's has published a version of the list annually since 2012.

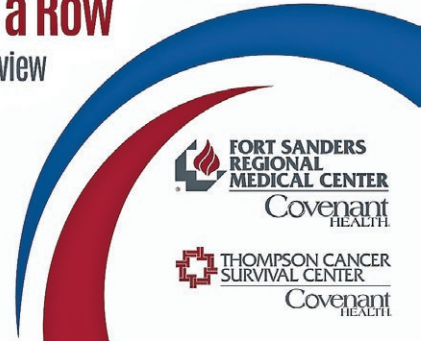
"Fort Sanders Regional continues to demonstrate unparalleled treatment for our patients diagnosed with

cancer and cancer-related illnesses," said Keith Altshuler, chief administrative officer, Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center. "Our proximity to and relationship with Thompson Cancer Survival Center allows access to the very best cancer care for patients in our region. This recognition honors our team of staff and physicians for their extraordinary and compassionate care, and it is rewarding to be included on this list for the second time."

Fort Sanders Regional's 34-bed oncology inpatient unit offers advanced treatment options using the latest diagnostics and surgeries, including minimally invasive techniques. With Thompson Cancer Survival Center located adjacent to the hospital's campus in downtown Knoxville, patients have access to the latest clinical trials and an expanded staff of medical and radiation oncologists, dietitians, genetics counselors, physiotherapists, pharmacists, therapists, oncology nurses and social workers.

### Named a Top 100 Hospital with Great Oncology Programs Two Years in a Row

Becker's Hospital Review



The Fort Sanders Regional Stroke Team received Covenant Health's top honor, the President's Award.

## Fort Sanders Regional wins Covenant Health President's Award

Covenant Health celebrated the accomplishments of individual employees and collaborative teams throughout our health system at the inaugural President's Excellence Awards celebration, held in mid-November at the Knoxville Marriott. This year's awards reflected not only individual and team project accomplishments, but also focused on Covenant Health's Pledge of Excellence in the selection of honorees.

The most prestigious award of the day – the President's Award – was presented to the Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center stroke team in recognition of the hospital's accomplishments in stroke care, becoming an accredited Comprehensive Stroke Center, and its role in developing the hub-and-spoke approach for Covenant Health's stroke hospital network. The President's Award, Covenant Health's highest honor,



Randy Tingle



Michele Lloyd

was given to the project that most reflected Covenant's mission, goals, and Pledge of Excellence.

Thirteen Covenant Health employees were selected as nominees in the Individual Achievement category and six winners were selected. Among those are Fort Sanders Regional chaplain Randy Tingle and Patricia Neal Rehabilitation Center physical therapist Michele Lloyd.

Winning Team Achievement Awards included:

**"ICOUGH – Post-Operative Pneumonia Reduction and Cost Savings"**



Fort Sanders Regional's iCough project was honored in the team achievement category.

Fort Sanders Regional instituted the ICOUGH program to deploy evidence-based approaches for surgical patients' recovery and reduction of pulmonary complications. Results include a significant reduction in post-operative pneumonia.

**"Impacting Stroke Care: Sustain-**

**ability in tPA Administration"**

The Sustainability Award was given to Fort Sanders Regional for this project, which focused on reducing door-to-needle times for stroke patients by developing procedures for administering tPA in the CT suite to minimize delays in treatment.

## Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center recognized as Comprehensive Stroke Center

Covenant Health, the region's only stroke hospital network, is pleased to announce several advanced stroke certifications from The Joint Commission and the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association.

Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center has received The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval and the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Heart-Check Mark in conjunction with renewal of the hospital's Advanced Certification as a Comprehensive Stroke Center. The designation means that Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center continues to be part of an elite group of providers focused on complex and highly specialized stroke care.

Comprehensive Stroke Center Certification recognizes hospitals that have the infrastructure, staff and training to receive

and treat patients with the most complex strokes. Requirements include advanced imaging capabilities, 24/7 availability of specialized treatment including medications and intervention procedures, and staff who are specially trained to care for complex stroke patients. Fort Sanders Regional has been certified as a Comprehensive Stroke Center since 2013. With additional accreditations for stroke rehabilitation at the Patricia Neal Rehabilitation Center, Fort Sanders Regional is the area's only comprehensive stroke and rehabilitation center.

Fort Sanders Regional also received the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Gold Plus Achievement Award with Target: Stroke<sup>SM</sup> Honor Roll Elite

Plus. The award recognizes the hospital's commitment to providing the most appropriate stroke treatment, according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines based on the latest scientific evidence.

In addition, four Covenant Health hospitals received The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval and the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Heart-Check mark for Advanced Certification for Primary Stroke Centers: Fort Loudoun Medical Center in Lenoir City, LeConte Medical Center in Sevierville, Methodist Medical Center in Oak Ridge, and Parkwest Medical Center in Knoxville.

"We are very pleased that several of Covenant Health's member hospitals have received advanced certifications for stroke care," said Jim VanderSteege, president and

CEO. "Our stroke hospital network provides convenient local resources for stroke care in the communities we serve, and primary stroke certification is an affirmation of our hospitals' commitment to patients who experience stroke. The network also provides East Tennesseans with access to the advanced technology and innovative treatments provided by our comprehensive stroke team."

Stroke is the fifth-leading cause of death and a leading cause of adult disability in the United States, according to the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association. On average, someone suffers a stroke every 40 seconds. To learn more about Covenant Health's commitment to excellence in stroke care, visit [www.covenanthealth.com/neuroscience-stroke](http://www.covenanthealth.com/neuroscience-stroke).

*Fort Sanders  
Regional Medical Center  
wishes you and your family  
a wonderful holiday season  
and a happy new year.*

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