

## **Memorial Healthcare Launches Collaborative Program That Will Extend Access to Specialty Care Throughout Michigan**

OWOSSO, Mich., August 17, 2020 – Memorial Healthcare is bringing its nationally-recognized neurology services to more Michigan communities through a unique collaborative program available to healthcare providers.

The Memorial Healthcare Institute for Neurosciences Collaboration Program was created to improve access to high-quality and comprehensive inpatient, surgical, and outpatient neurological sub-specialty services for patients and healthcare providers throughout the state.

“With this new business model, we see an opportunity for healthcare providers throughout Michigan to strengthen one another and deliver best-in-class care opportunities to new communities,” said Brian Long, FACHE, president and CEO at Memorial Healthcare. “Our alliance with Ascension St. Mary’s puts the most advanced neurology sub-specialists right in the Saginaw market, providing the same compassionate quality care patients have come to expect from Memorial Healthcare but closer to their homes.”

Memorial Healthcare launched the first of these efforts earlier in July with a neurology and neurosurgery service alliance with Ascension St. Mary’s Hospital in Saginaw. Memorial Healthcare will offer access to its world-renown neurological specialists to Ascension St. Mary’s patients for sub-specialty treatment, like migraines/headaches and multiple sclerosis, and Memorial Healthcare will gain access to Ascension St. Mary’s team of highly skilled neurosurgery specialists.

For example, the Memorial Healthcare Institute for Neuroscience’s Dr. Mary Hollist, a board-certified vascular neurologist specializing in stroke-related care, will provide inpatient and outpatient services at Ascension St. Mary’s Hospital and at a private office located at 4680 McLeod East in Saginaw. This type of collaborative approach will strengthen local access to specialized neurology sub services while expanding Ascension St. Mary’s Hospital’s range of on-site services.

“With Ascension St. Mary’s recently being accredited by The Joint Commission as the region’s only comprehensive stroke center, meaning patients receive the highest level of care with the most advanced procedures, technologies and treatments, this alliance with Memorial Healthcare further strengthens and provides access to neurological sub-specialty services for patients,” says Stephanie Duggan, MD, FACEP, CPE, Regional President, Ascension Michigan Northern Ministries. “With a legacy of being a center of excellence for stroke and neuroscience care, we are excited about this alliance with Memorial Healthcare and their neurological specialists to further enhance our program and continue to raise the bar in stroke care.”

The creation and launch of the Memorial Healthcare Institute for Neurosciences Collaboration Program is yet another example of Memorial Healthcare’s commitment to providing its cutting-edge care to patients in mid-Michigan and beyond – particularly within its neurological practice area.

“Our team of neurologists have had the privilege of caring for patients in the Saginaw area for many years,” said Dr. Rany Aburashed, Chief of Neurology and Director of Multiple Sclerosis at the Memorial Healthcare Institute for Neuroscience. “Our hope is that in providing patients with this ease of access we will not only enhance their overall care, but also provide our patients in Shiawassee County access to the world-class neurosurgery services available at Ascension St. Mary’s.”

“Ascension St. Mary’s, its Field Neurosciences Institute, and the Memorial Healthcare Institute for Neuroscience are highly regarded programs focused on providing individuals with exceptional care for strokes and other neurological conditions and illnesses,” said Joseph Adel, MD, FAANS, cerebrovascular, endovascular and skull base neurosurgeon. “This alliance complements each organization including research initiatives focused on the development of new treatments for disease and injuries of the nervous system. We look forward to working with our colleagues at Memorial Healthcare.”

Memorial Healthcare recently became the first in Michigan to offer Vyepiti, a new treatment option that can reduce the rate of migraines by as much as 50% with zero side effects. In the past year, Memorial Healthcare also launched the first clinical-based study of Multiple Sclerosis using Neurofilament Light Chain technology in the United States and a \$40 million investment towards a new facility specializing in neurology and orthopedics.

For more information on the Memorial Healthcare Institute for Neurosciences, visit [www.memorialhealthcare.org/neurology](http://www.memorialhealthcare.org/neurology).

### **About Memorial Healthcare**

Memorial Healthcare is an independent, community non-profit hospital with 161 beds and a medical staff of more than 200 physicians and advanced practice providers. Memorial is the sole hospital in Shiawassee County, serving a population of approximately 68,000 with an expanded footprint in Genesee, Saginaw, Bay, and Clinton counties. With a medical staff of over 200 and more than 1,400 employees, Memorial Healthcare’s mission rings true today, as it did in 1921 when it opened its doors, to promote health and wellness through quality compassionate healthcare with a commitment to service excellence, teamwork, and innovation. For more information, visit [www.memorialhealthcare.org](http://www.memorialhealthcare.org).

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