

Swedish Covenant Hospital Earns Recertification as a NICHE Designated Hospital

By Bill Ligas

Swedish Covenant Hospital was recently recertified as a NICHE designated hospital by the Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders program. NICHE awarded the hospital a "Senior-Friendly" status, exemplifying the hospital's commitment to quality care for patients over 65 and providing state-of-the-art resources to better address the special needs of older adult patients.

NICHE is the leading nurse-driven program producing standards and resources to assist hospitals in improving the quality of care provided for patients age 65 and older. Some of the distinguishing factors of a NICHE hospital include:

- Improved clinical outcomes
- Positive fiscal results
- Enhanced nursing competencies
- Community recognition
- Greater patient, family and staff satisfaction

"Swedish Covenant Hospital is

committed to caring for older adults as whole persons through an atmosphere of professional excellence and human kindness," said Linda Beagley, MS, RN, CPAN, Swedish Covenant Hospital's NICHE Coordinator. "We strive to provide the most current resources and the latest technology and procedures to bedside nurses caring for geriatric patients."

To receive recertification as a NICHE hospital, Swedish Covenant Hospital took part in a rigorous renewal process that included the completion of the Annual Membership Profile and the Annual Program Evaluation, designed to determine a hospital's committed to improving quality, enhancing patient and family experience and supporting efforts to serve the community.

Swedish Covenant Hospital has been NICHE designated since 2004. Only 620 hospitals have received NICHE designation internationally. To learn more about NICHE designation, please visit their website.