



NEWS RELEASE

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Rome Memorial Hospital recognized for implementing quality measures in intensive care unit

ROME — Rome Memorial Hospital has been recognized by the Healthcare Association of New York State for demonstrating commitment to and expertise in improving quality care.

The hospital was featured in the state healthcare association's 2011 *Leading the Quest for Quality* publication acknowledging Rome Memorial Hospital's achievement in aligning medicine with evidence-based practice to improve outcomes of critical care ventilator patients.

The publication highlights excellence in care throughout the state and provides a tool for organizations to learn about improvement and safety strategies to use at their own facilities.

"Critical Care Coordinator Richard Simpson, RN, CCRN, led the intensive care and nursing team in the research, education, and adoption of a new protocol that reduces the amount of sedation a patient receives while on a ventilator and, consequently, improves quality of life," said Director of Education Gale Barone, RN, BS.

"Our goal is to keep our ventilator patients comfortable with the minimum amount of sedation," explained Simpson. "Lighter sedation means patients stay stronger and use their muscles more. There is less chance of complications because they spend less time on the ventilator."

"At Rome Memorial Hospital we continue to look for ways to ensure quality care for our patients every day," Simpson continued. "The credit for this achievement goes to our nurses and doctors who recognize the importance of staff education and implementation of best practices for patient safety and exceptional clinical outcomes."

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