Honor a Visionary Leader with a Well-Deserved Award

"Thank you to all my patients for your trust in me, and thank you to everyone who has made this award possible. You all give my daily work, and my whole career, such meaning."

—Richard Bernstein, MD

Recent, thoughtful philanthropy enabled Dr. Bernstein to bring RAPID brain imaging technology—the world’s most advanced visualization software for the brain—to Northwestern Memorial and its Telestroke partner hospitals. When a patient experiencing symptoms of a stroke arrives at the Emergency Department, RAPID analyzes data, in less than two minutes, from the patient’s CT scan or MRI, providing results that can be viewed on any computer screen or handheld device. This information enables neurologists to evaluate the amount of brain tissue that has been irreversibly damaged and to determine the amount of tissue that likely can be saved if blood flow is quickly restored to the brain.

Dr. Bernstein’s leadership and vision, as well as his and his colleagues’ commitment to excellence, have elevated Northwestern Memorial’s Stroke Program to No. 1 in Chicago in every quality measure related to stroke. In addition, the program is ranked No. 2 in the nation for stroke survival and is recognized as one of only 100 national Joint Commission and American Heart Association/American Stroke Association-certified Comprehensive Stroke Centers.

Reflecting on the significance of a Distinguished Physician Award—which is designed to shine much-deserved light on physicians who realize the highest standards as leaders, patient care advocates, clinical investigators and medical educators—Dr. Bernstein remarked: “Thank you to all my patients for your trust in me, and thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Distinguished Physician in Vascular Neurology Award for stroke care. You all give my daily work, and my whole career, such meaning.”

Gifts in support of the Distinguished Physician in Vascular Neurology Award are enabling Dr. Bernstein to:

- Continue to provide expert care for patients with complex cerebrovascular problems.
- Focus on research regarding stroke of unknown cause and on cardiac conditions such as atrial fibrillation, a leading cause of major stroke.
- Increase Northwestern’s stroke clinical trial offerings.
- Expand Northwestern Medicine’s Telestroke network.

To learn more, contact Leslie Post-Weissinger at bsostw@nm.org.

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