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2 An act relating to stroke centers; amending s.
3 395.3038, F.S.; revising the criteria for hospitals to
4 be included on the state list of stroke centers by the
5 Agency for Health Care Administration; removing
6 provisions requiring the agency to adopt rules
7 establishing the criteria for such list; amending s.
8 395.30381, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the
9 statewide stroke registry to conform to changes made
10 by the act; amending s. 395.3039, F.S.; revising
11 provisions prohibiting the advertisement of a hospital
12 as a state-listed stroke center, unless certain
13 conditions are met, to conform to changes made by the
14 act; amending s. 395.3041, F.S.; requiring specified
15 protocols to consider the capability of an emergency
16 receiving facility to improve outcomes for certain
17 patients; clarifying applicability; providing an
18 effective date.

19
20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

21
22 Section 1. Subsection (1), paragraph (a) of subsection (2),
23 and subsection (3) of section 395.3038, Florida Statutes, are
24 amended to read:

25 395.3038 State-listed stroke centers; notification of
26 hospitals.—

27 (1) The agency shall make available on its website and to
28 the department a list of the name and address of each hospital
29 that is certified by a nationally recognized certifying

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30 organization as ~~meets the criteria for~~ an acute stroke ready
31 center, a primary stroke center, a thrombectomy-capable stroke
32 center, or a comprehensive stroke center. The list of stroke
33 centers must include only those hospitals that have submitted
34 documentation to the agency verifying their certification as an
35 acute stroke ready center, a primary stroke center, a
36 thrombectomy-capable stroke center, or a comprehensive stroke
37 center, which may include, but is not limited to, any stroke
38 center that offers and performs mechanical endovascular therapy
39 consistent with the standards identified by a nationally
40 recognized guidelines-based organization approved by the agency.
41 Each hospital that has attested in an affidavit to the agency
42 that it meets the criteria in this subsection must be certified
43 ~~that attest in an affidavit submitted to the agency that the~~
44 ~~hospital meets the named criteria, or those hospitals that~~
45 ~~attest in an affidavit submitted to the agency that the hospital~~
46 ~~is certified as an acute stroke ready center, a primary stroke~~
47 ~~center, or a comprehensive stroke center~~ by a nationally
48 recognized accrediting organization by July 1, 2021.

49 (2) (a) If a hospital no longer chooses to be certified by a
50 nationally recognized certifying organization or has not
51 attained certification consistent with ~~meet~~ the criteria in
52 subsection (1) as ~~for~~ an acute stroke ready center, a primary
53 stroke center, a thrombectomy-capable stroke center, or a
54 comprehensive stroke center, the hospital shall notify the
55 agency and the agency shall immediately remove the hospital from
56 the list of stroke centers.

57 ~~(3) The agency shall adopt by rule criteria for an acute~~
58 ~~stroke ready center, a primary stroke center, and a~~

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59 ~~comprehensive stroke center which are substantially similar to~~
60 ~~the certification standards for the same categories of stroke~~
61 ~~centers of a nationally recognized accrediting organization.~~

62 Section 2. Section 395.30381, Florida Statutes, is amended
63 to read:

64 395.30381 Statewide stroke registry.-

65 (1) Subject to a specific appropriation, the department
66 shall contract with a private entity to establish and maintain a
67 statewide stroke registry to ensure that the stroke performance
68 measures required to be submitted under subsection (2) are
69 maintained and available for use to improve or modify the stroke
70 care system, ensure compliance with standards and nationally
71 recognized guidelines, and monitor stroke patient outcomes.

72 (2) Each acute stroke ready center, primary stroke center,
73 thrombectomy-capable stroke center, and comprehensive stroke
74 center shall regularly report to the statewide stroke registry
75 information containing ~~specified by the department, including~~
76 nationally recognized stroke performance measures.

77 (3) The department shall require the contracted private
78 entity to use a nationally recognized platform to collect data
79 from each stroke center on the stroke performance measures
80 required in subsection (2). The contracted private entity shall
81 provide regular reports to the department on the data collected.

82 (4) A ~~No~~ liability of any kind or character for damages or
83 other relief shall not arise or be enforced against any acute
84 stroke ready center, primary stroke center, thrombectomy-capable
85 stroke center, or comprehensive stroke center by reason of
86 having provided such information to the statewide stroke
87 registry.

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88 Section 3. Section 395.3039, Florida Statutes, is amended
89 to read:

90 395.3039 Advertising restrictions.—A person may not
91 advertise to the public, by way of any medium whatsoever, that a
92 hospital is a state-listed ~~primary or comprehensive~~ stroke
93 center unless the hospital has submitted documentation to the
94 agency verifying that it is certified and meets the criteria
95 ~~provided notice to the agency as required in s. 395.3038 by this~~
96 ~~act.~~

97 Section 4. Subsections (1), (3), and (4) of section
98 395.3041, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

99 395.3041 Emergency medical services providers; triage and
100 transportation of stroke victims to a stroke center.—

101 (1) By June 1 of each year, the department shall send the
102 list of acute stroke ready centers, primary stroke centers,
103 thrombectomy-capable stroke centers, and comprehensive stroke
104 centers to the medical director of each licensed emergency
105 medical services provider in the ~~this~~ state.

106 (3) The medical director of each licensed emergency medical
107 services provider shall develop and implement assessment,
108 treatment, and transport-destination protocols for stroke
109 patients with the intent to assess, treat, and transport stroke
110 patients to the most appropriate hospital. Such protocols must
111 consider the capability of an emergency receiving facility to
112 improve outcomes for those patients suspected of having an
113 emergent large vessel occlusion.

114 (4) Each emergency medical services provider licensed under
115 chapter 401 must comply with ~~all sections of this~~ section ~~act.~~

116 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.