

Area Hospital Receives Special Designation

A landmark designation for the Sabetha Community Hospital, designated by the state Department of Health and Environment as a Level IV trauma center.

Sabetha joins Mitchell County Hospital Health Systems in Beloit as the first two hospitals in the state to ever receive the designation.

The administrators of the Sabetha and Beloit hospitals were presented their certificates at a meeting of the State's Advisory Committee on Trauma in Topeka Wednesday.

Sabetha Community Hospital CEO Lora Key said it's a great privilege for the hospital to receive the designation:: (play audio-35 secs)

KDHE was given legislative authority earlier this year to begin designating Level IV trauma centers, which according to Rosanne Rutkowski, director of the Kansas Trauma Program at KDHE, has been a goal dating back to the late 90's: (play audio-16 secs)

Rutkowski says the designation means Sabetha Community Hospital has met the requirements to meet the needs of seriously injured patients: (play audio-34 secs)

Now that Sabetha and Beloit have received the designation, Rutkowski says it's a matter of time before other Kansas hospitals move in that same direction: (play audio-26 secs)

The criteria for trauma center designation was established by the American College of Surgeons and endorsed by the State's Advisory Committee on Trauma.