

# Oconee Medical named safest hospital in state

THE JOURNAL STAFF

SENECA — Oconee Medical Center is the top hospital for patient safety in South Carolina for overall medical care, according to the 2011 quality award rankings from CareChex, a division of The Delta Group and the nation's largest privately-held health care information service company.

The medical center also ranks in the top 10 percent of hospitals nationwide for patient safety in overall medical care.

OMC received CareChex awards in nine clinical categories. Among other 2011 CareChex awards, OMC was ranked number one in South Carolina for: medical excellence, pneumonia care, pulmonary care patient safety and overall medical care.

"We are honored and proud to receive recognition for the quality care we provide," OMC President and CEO Jeanne Ward said. "With this award comes the responsibility to not only maintain the



highest quality of care, but also to improve on that quality every day. I would like to congratulate our physicians,

nurses, staff and volunteers on earning this recognition and thank them for their com-

mitment to providing high quality and safe patient care."

In recent years, OMC physicians, nurses and staff have been deeply involved in a wide range of quality and safety-related initiatives. "Quality improvement is a strategic commitment of our organization," said Hope Turner, MSN, RN, BC administrative director of accreditation and quality at OMC. "From the Board of Directors to the front-line staff, everyone is focused on providing quality care and working continuously to improve."

*Celebrate*  
**OCONEE!**



JESSICA NELMS | THE JOURNAL

Jessica Smith of The Delta Group, left, presents an award to Oconee Medical Center President and CEO Jeanne Ward after the hospital was designated as the top hospital for patient safety in South Carolina.