

# Healing Touch Healthcare Facility Profile

## Albany Medical Center

43 New Scotland Avenue, Albany, NY 12208

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As the only academic health sciences center in the 25 counties of eastern New York and western New England, Albany Medical Center is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of the residents we serve. From breakthrough “firsts” to the highest quality comprehensive care, you will find there is no substitute for Albany Medical Center.

**Type of Facility:** Hospital

### **How Healing Touch is currently being used in your facility:**

Healing Touch (HT) is utilized at the bedside throughout the hospital and with staff in an employee healing clinic. We honor requests for Healing Touch presence in the operating room as well as pre and post operative areas. Patients are seen ongoing throughout their hospital stay as our staffing allows. Parents may also request sessions for their premature infants in our NICU. We are part of the protocol to provide services to specialized populations such as: eating disorders and pain management. Staff wellness days offer free HT to all shifts upon unit requests. In addition, HT is offered at wellness fairs and educational presentations are made to staff for heightened awareness of CAM services.

**Contact for HT Services:** Sharon Wheeler, MS, MT-BC, LCAT, HTCP/ Diane Stredny, BS, RN, HTCP, CCA  
Phone: 518-262-4575 Email: [Wheeles@mail.amc.edu](mailto:Wheeles@mail.amc.edu) or [StrednD@mail.amc.edu](mailto:StrednD@mail.amc.edu)

**Can Patients Request Healing Touch:** Yes

Phone requests are made to Healing Arts Office. An excel spread sheet is utilized to keep track of requests and visits. Staff may also page for Healing Touch

**Physician Referral:** No

**Physician Order Required:** No

**Billing for HT:** No

**Minimum Healing Touch Skill Level:** Level 1

**Healing Touch Policy and Procedure in Place:** Yes

**When was HT Implemented and How?** Formed from a grass roots approach, in 2004, Healing Touch was formalized within the Healing Arts Department in 2005. Referrals are based on patient and family requests, staff recommendations and MD orders. We have two full time HTCP's and volunteers who are at various levels of HT. We hold practice group on site for staff and members of the community. We offer supervised mentorship for those who are in the process of certification.



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Continued

Since 2004 we have offered staff HT classes free.

**Is There Marketing for HT Services:** Yes We are developing a website and currently have a presence on the facility website. In addition, classes are offered through our Center for Learning and Development. In house brochures are available. An Introduction to Healing Touch video is available on patient education channels.

**Other CAM Therapies Available:** Massage, Aromatherapy, Holistic Nursing, Imagery, Reflexology, Reiki, Therapeutic Touch

**Other information you would like to include about your facility:** Albany Medical Center is the only academic health sciences center in the 25 counties of eastern New York and western New England. The Center incorporates the 651 bed Albany Medical Center Hospital, one of New York's largest teaching hospitals; Albany Medical College, one of the nation's first private medical schools; and the Albany Medical Center Foundation, Inc. one of the largest fund-raising organizations in the region.

