



For Immediate Release

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SAINT FRANCIS HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER NAMED SOLE CONNECTICUT RECIPIENT OF HEALTHGRADES 2013 PATIENT SAFETY EXCELLENCE AWARD™

Hospital Honored for Third Consecutive Year

Hartford, CT (April 10, 2013) – Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center announced today that it has received the *Healthgrades 2013 Patient Safety Excellence Award™*, according to Healthgrades, the leading online resource that helps consumers search, evaluate, compare and connect with physicians and hospitals. The distinction places Saint Francis within the top 5% of all hospitals for its excellent performance in safeguarding patients from serious, potentially preventable complications during their hospital stays.

This is also the third year that Saint Francis has received this prestigious award.

When compared to hospitals performing in the bottom 5% for patient safety, *Healthgrades Patient Safety Excellence Award™* recipients had three patient safety indicators showing the largest difference in observed to expected ratios. On average, patients treated in Patient Safety Excellence Award hospitals were also:

- 81% less likely to experience hip fracture following surgery compared to hospitals ranked in the bottom 5% in the nation¹
- 80% less likely to experience pressure sores or bed sores acquired in the hospital compared to hospitals ranked in the bottom 5% in the nation¹
- 70% less likely to experience a catheter-related bloodstream infection acquired in the hospital compared to hospitals ranked in the bottom 5% in the nation¹

¹ Statistics are based on Healthgrades application of QI Windows® Software (version 4.4), developed by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

“It is truly an honor for us to receive this award and especially to be the only hospital in the state to be recognized two years in a row for the dedication of our caregivers to continuously enhance patient safety,” said Christopher M. Dadlez, President and Chief Executive Officer, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center. “This award is a reflection of our continued commitment to patient safety and our many initiatives that provide patients with quality, top-flight care.”

“Healthgrades report highlights the variation in hospital quality, both locally and across the nation, in order to show consumers that spending time on understanding hospital performance can be a matter of life and death,” said Evan Marks, EVP Informatics and Strategy, Healthgrades. “Consumers can be assured that a hospital that has been recognized with a Healthgrades 2013 Patient Safety Excellence Award has demonstrated an established commitment to patient safety.”

During the 2013 study period (2009-2011), Patient Safety Excellence Award hospitals showed better than expected performance in providing safety for patients in the Medicare population, as measured by objective outcomes (risk-adjusted patient safety indicator rates) across 13 of the 14 most common patient safety indicators, as defined by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).

For more information about Healthgrades, to download a full copy of the report or to get information about hospital and physician quality, visit: www.Healthgrades.com today.

About Saint Francis Care

Saint Francis *Care* is an integrated healthcare delivery system established by Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, an anchor institution in north central Connecticut since 1897. Licensed for 617 beds and 65 bassinets, it is a major teaching hospital and the largest Catholic hospital in New England. Other major entities of Saint Francis *Care* include The Mount Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital, the Connecticut Joint Replacement Institute, the Hoffman Heart and Vascular Institute of Connecticut, the Saint Francis/Mount Sinai Regional Cancer Center, the Joyce D. and Andrew J. Mandell Center for Comprehensive Multiple Sclerosis Care and Neuroscience Research, and Saint Francis Health*Care* Partners. Its services are supported by a network of five major Access Centers and eight additional medical office centers sited throughout the region. For more information, visit www.stfranciscare.com.

About Healthgrades

Healthgrades, headquartered in Denver, Colorado, the leading online resource of comprehensive information about physicians and hospitals. More than 225 million visitors use the Healthgrades websites to search, evaluate, compare and connect with physicians and hospitals that best meet their treatment needs. Consumers are empowered through use of the Healthgrades proprietary information about clinical outcomes, satisfaction, safety, and health conditions to make more informed healthcare decisions and take action. For more information please visit www.healthgrades.com and www.bettermedicine.com.

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