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U.S. News & World Report Names Saint Francis Care among Nation’s High-Performing Hospitals in Knee Replacement and COPD

Washington, D.C. – July 8, 2015 – Saint Francis Care has been rated high performing in knee replacement as well as treatment of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in the *U.S. News & World Report Best Hospitals for Common Care* ratings. The ratings evaluate more than 4,500 hospitals nationwide on common inpatient procedures and conditions.

“We know that our quality and safety are superb in both joint replacement and COPD,” said Christopher M. Dadlez, President and Chief Executive Officer, Saint Francis Care. “We are gratified that *U.S. News* recognizes this as well.”

U.S. News evaluated hospitals in five procedures and medical conditions – heart bypass surgery, hip replacement, knee replacement, heart failure and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) – and rated them high performers, average or below average. Only about 10 percent of the evaluated hospitals were rated as high performers.

“CJRI has one of the best safety records and lowest post-surgical complication rates in the United States,” said Steven Schutzer, M.D., Director, *Connecticut Joint Replacement Institute*. “To be included in this list is a testimony to our dedicated nurses, physicians, surgical technicians and physical therapists who make up the patient’s care team.”

“It is important for patients to be able to receive the best care close to home,” said Bimalin Lahiri, M.D., section chief, Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. “Saint Francis is not only an expert in treating COPD, but it serves as a resource for the community.”

“The choice of hospital is one of the most important and costly decisions an individual makes,” said Ben Harder, chief of health analysis for *U.S. News*. “We evaluated the treatment of more than 3.6 million patients and identified a small percentage of hospitals that have superior outcomes compared with their peer institutions. Whenever possible, patients, in consultation with their doctors, should seek out high-performing hospitals that excel in treating their specific condition.”

U.S. News created *Best Hospitals for Common Care* to help patients find better care for the kinds of common procedures and medical conditions that account for millions of hospitalizations each year. Objective outcome measures such as deaths, infections, readmissions, and operations that need to be repeated as well as patient satisfaction data largely determined the ratings. The *Best Hospitals for Common Care* ratings rely on Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services data for patients 65 and older, as well as survey data from the American Hospital Association and clinical registry data from the Society of Thoracic Surgeons.

Dr. Foster, an international health care analytics company with expertise on claims-based risk adjustment, collaborated with *U.S. News* on the *Best Hospitals for Common Care* ratings methodology.

The ratings are freely available at <http://health.usnews.com/best-hospitals/rankings>

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 HealthCare Partners. Johnson Memorial Medical Center, parent organization of Johnson Memorial Hospital, Evergreen Health Care Center,

and Home and Community Health Services, is also a Saint Francis *Care* Partner. Saint Francis *Care*'s services are supported by a network of five major Access Centers and eight additional medical office centers sited throughout the region. For more information, vis

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