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MMC Among U.S. Top 1 Percent in ‘Common Care’ Rankings

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Maine Medical Center (MMC) has been rated “high performing” in heart bypass surgery, hip replacement, knee replacement, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and heart failure treatment in the U.S. News & World Report Best Hospitals for Common Care ratings. The ratings evaluate more than 4,600 hospitals nationwide on these common inpatient procedures and conditions; MMC is one of just 34 hospitals nationwide (fewer than 1 percent) to be ranked as high performing in all five of these categories.

“As the state’s largest tertiary care and referral center — and only Level I trauma center — our clinicians and staff treat the widest range of conditions in northern New England,” says MMC President and CEO Richard Petersen. “This recognition from U.S. News & World Report shows that whether we’re providing common procedures or complex treatments, our commitment to quality and excellence is making a difference for the people in our communities.”

MMC is the only hospital in Maine and northern New England to earn the high-performing rating in all five categories. Nationally, organizations such as the Cleveland Clinic and Massachusetts General Hospital (the top two hospitals in U.S. News’ most recent annual hospital rankings) also earned high marks across the board.

U.S. News evaluated hospitals in the five procedures and medical conditions listed below and rated them as either high performers, average, or below average. About 10 percent of the hospitals surveyed were rated as high performers in even a single category.

Procedure/Condition	% of U.S. Hospitals Rated “High-Performing”	Maine Medical Center Rated High Performing?
Heart bypass surgery	14%	Yes
Hip replacement	11%	Yes
Knee replacement	10%	Yes
COPD	8%	Yes
Heart failure treatment	11%	Yes

“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>.

About Maine Medical Center

Maine Medical Center (MMC), recognized as the number-one ranked hospital in Maine by *U.S. News and World Report for 2014-2015*, is a complete health care resource for the people of Greater Portland and the entire state, as well as northern New England. Incorporated in 1864, MMC is the state’s largest medical center, licensed for 637 beds and employing nearly 6,500 people. MMC's unique role as both a community hospital and a referral center requires an unparalleled depth and breadth of services, including an active educational program and a world-class biomedical research center. As a nonprofit institution, Maine Medical Center provides nearly 23 percent of all the charity care delivered in Maine. MMC is a member of the MaineHealth system, a growing family of health care services in northern New England. For more information, visit www.mmc.org.

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