



SAINT VINCENT HOSPITAL

A history of excellence. A century of care.

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PRESS RELEASE

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Saint Vincent Hospital Named one of the Nation's Top Cardiovascular Hospitals by Thomson Reuters

Worcester, MA - Saint Vincent Hospital has been named one of the nation's 50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals by Thomson Reuters.

The study examined the performance of more than 1,000 hospitals by analyzing outcomes for patients with heart failure and heart attacks and for those who received coronary bypass surgery and percutaneous coronary interventions such as angioplasties.

This is the first time Saint Vincent Hospital has been recognized with this honor. This year's winners were announced November 14 in *Modern Healthcare* magazine. Earlier this year Saint Vincent Hospital was honored with a Reuters Top 100 Hospitals[®] Award.

"We are extremely honored and proud of this recognition," said Erik Wexler, Saint Vincent Hospital's President and CEO. "It shows just how dedicated all of our employees and physicians are to delivering safe, high-quality care to the residents of Central Massachusetts. And being presented with two such honors within a short period of time is truly exceptional."

"Being acknowledged as one of the nation's leaders in providing cardiovascular services is a real tribute to all the health care providers at Saint Vincent who dedicate themselves to the care of cardiology and cardiac surgery patients," said Robert Bojar, MD, Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Saint Vincent Hospital. "This recognition also justifies the confidence our patients have in our ability to provide them with outstanding clinical and cost-effective care."

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“This year’s 50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals have continued to deliver excellent care and have been able to improve their performance in a tough economic climate,” said Jean Chenoweth, senior vice president for performance improvement and 100 Top Hospitals® program at Thomson Reuters. “The hospitals in this study have provided measurably better care and are more efficient than their peers, demonstrating incredibly strong focus by hospital leadership at a time when the healthcare system is steeped in volatility.”

The study shows that 97 percent of cardiovascular inpatients in U.S. hospitals survive and approximately 96 percent remain complication-free, reflecting improved cardiovascular care across-the-board over the past year. The 50 top hospitals’ performance surpasses these high-water marks as indicated by:

- Better risk-adjusted survival rates (23 percent fewer deaths than non-winning hospitals for bypass surgery patients).
- Lower complications indices (40 percent lower rate of heart failure complications).
- Fewer patients readmitted to the hospital after 30 days.
- Shorter hospital visits and lower costs. Top hospitals discharge bypass patients nearly a full day sooner and spend \$4,200 less per bypass case than non-winners.
- Increased use of internal mammary artery (IMA) for coronary artery bypass surgeries. Top hospitals have increased their use of this recommended procedure from 88 to 96 percent

The study evaluated general and applicable specialty, short-term, acute care, non-federal U.S. hospitals treating a broad spectrum of cardiology patients.

Thomson Reuters researchers analyzed 2009 and 2010 Medicare Provider Analysis and Review (MedPAR) data, Medicare cost reports, and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Hospital Compare data. They scored hospitals in key performance areas: risk-adjusted mortality, risk-adjusted complications, core measures (a group of measures that assess process of care), percentage of coronary bypass patients with internal mammary artery use, 30-day mortality rates, 30-day readmission rates, severity-adjusted average length of stay, and wage- and severity-adjusted average cost.

About Saint Vincent Hospital

Saint Vincent Hospital is an acute care hospital providing general and tertiary medical services to residents of Worcester and Central Massachusetts. From newborns to seniors, Saint Vincent Hospital has a wide-range of inpatient and outpatient services, including open-heart surgery, cardiovascular medicine, radiation oncology, and pediatric services. Saint Vincent Hospital was founded by the Sisters of Providence and has over a century-long tradition of providing quality healthcare. It was the first hospital in Central Massachusetts to offer robotically assisted surgical procedures and minimally invasive, computer-assisted joint replacements. Saint Vincent Hospital is located at 123 Summer Street, Worcester, MA and now has a variety of medical group facilities opening throughout the region. To learn more, visit www.stvincenthospital.com or call 508-363-5000.