



For Immediate Release

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Delray Medical Center is Among Top 5% in Nation

– HealthGrades Quality Study Identifies Hospitals with Superior Patient Outcomes Across 26 Different Medical Procedures and Diagnoses –

DELRAY, Fla. (January 24, 2012) – Delray Medical Center announced today that HealthGrades, the nation's leading independent healthcare ratings organization has named it a Distinguished Hospital for Clinical Excellence™. This prestigious distinction places Delray Medical Center among the top 5% of hospitals nationwide for clinical performance.

HealthGrades Hospital Quality and Clinical Excellence study, released today, objectively identifies those hospitals with the best overall clinical performance across 26 medical diagnoses and procedures that the organization rates. These 263 top-performing hospitals represent only 5% of the nation's hospitals and each is designated as a HealthGrades Distinguished Hospital for Clinical Excellence™.

"Delray Medical Center can be proud of the contributions of its physicians, nurses and staff in achieving outstanding patient care," said Kristin Reed, MPH, HealthGrades vice president of hospital ratings and author of the study. "The Delray Beach community is fortunate to have access to some of the highest quality hospital care in the nation."

"This is a major achievement for Delray Medical Center, as it confirms our patient outcomes are some of the best in the country," said Mark Bryan, CEO. "This is a direct reflection of our experienced and dedicated clinical staff, who have worked above and beyond to help Delray achieve this prestigious distinction."

Unlike other hospital quality studies, HealthGrades evaluates hospitals solely on clinical outcomes: risk-adjusted mortality and in-hospital complications. HealthGrades' analysis is based on approximately 40 million Medicare discharges for the years 2008, 2009 and 2010. Using these top-performing hospitals as a benchmark in this year's HealthGrades study, HealthGrades quantifies the impact of differences in hospital quality in terms of lives lost and unexpected complications.

The HealthGrades study found that:

- Distinguished Hospitals for Clinical Excellence (Top 5% in the nation), such as Delray Medical Center, outperformed all other hospitals across all of the 17 mortality cohorts and six of nine complication cohorts studied from 2008 through 2010.
- Specifically, Distinguished Hospitals for Clinical Excellence had a 30.07% lower risk-adjusted mortality rate and a 1.86% lower risk-adjusted in-hospital complication rate among Medicare beneficiaries compared to all other hospitals.
- In fact, if all hospitals performed at the level of Distinguished Hospitals for Clinical Excellence, 165,704 Medicare lives could potentially have been saved and 6,800 Medicare in-hospital complications could potentially have been avoided.

About Delray Medical Center

For more than 25 years, Delray Medical Center, a 493-bed acute care hospital, has served the communities of South Palm Beach County. As both a community hospital and Provisional Level I Trauma Center located on a 42-acre medical plaza, Delray Medical Center has the ability to offer several specialized services including cardiac care, orthopedics, rehabilitation, neurosciences, emergency care and more.

For the past four years, Delray Medical Center has been named one of America's 50 Best Hospitals (HealthGrades), as well as a Primary Stroke Center (Joint Commission), a Blue Distinction Center for Spine Surgery and for Knee and Hip Replacement (Blue Cross and Blue Shield) and has also received the Get With The Guidelines award for coronary artery disease, stroke and heart failure (American Heart Association). Delray Medical Center is one of only 269 hospitals ranked in the top 5% in the nation for patient outcomes according to a new study by HealthGrades, the leading independent healthcare ratings organization, achieving the HealthGrades Distinguished Hospital for Clinical Excellence Award™. The hospital is one of just 13 hospitals in South Florida, and just one of five in Palm Beach County that received the recognition for its clinical performance. The hospital is actively involved in community outreach, sponsoring several events, community lectures and fundraisers. Delray Medical Center is also a smoke free campus.

HealthGrades Hospital Quality Distinctions

As part of this study, HealthGrades evaluates each of the nation's 5,000 nonfederal hospitals in 26 procedures and diagnoses, allowing individuals to compare their local hospitals online at www.healthgrades.com. HealthGrades hospital quality distinctions are independently created; no hospital can opt-in or opt-out of being evaluated, and no hospital pays to be evaluated. Mortality and complication rates are risk adjusted, which takes into account differing levels of severity of patient illness at different hospitals and allows for hospitals to be compared equally.

About HealthGrades

HealthGrades, headquartered in Denver, Colorado, is a leading provider of comprehensive information about physicians and hospitals. More than 200 million consumers use the HealthGrades websites, including HealthGrades.com and BetterMedicine.com, to research, select, and connect with a physician or hospital, and use its comprehensive information about clinical outcomes, patient satisfaction, patient safety, and health conditions to make more informed healthcare decisions and take action. Find more information about our products and

services at HealthGrades.com. Follow us on Twitter ([@HealthGrades](https://twitter.com/HealthGrades)) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/HealthGrades) for news and updates. More information on how HealthGrades guides Americans to their best health can be found at www.healthgrades.com.

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