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## NEWS RELEASE

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**Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville and Baptist Medical Center South ranked No. 1 hospital among Metro Jacksonville hospitals by *U.S. News and World Report***

*Jacksonville, FL, July 16, 2013*  Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville and Baptist Medical Center South, which share a license, were again ranked No. 1 among metro Jacksonville hospitals in the U.S. News and World Report annual Best Hospital rankings. The hospitals also ranked fourth in Florida, up from fifth last year.

U.S. News evaluates hospitals in 16 adult specialties. In most specialties, it ranks the nation’s top 50 hospitals and recognizes other high-performing hospitals that provide care at nearly the level of their nationally ranked peers.

Baptist Jacksonville and Baptist South were recognized in 11 of those 16 specialties, earning a national ranking Diabetes and Endocrinology.

The hospitals were also ranked as high-performing in the following specialties:

* Cancer
* Cardiology & Heart Surgery
* Gastroenterology & GI Surgery
* Geriatrics
* Gynecology
* Nephrology
* Neurology & Neurosurgery
* Orthopaedics
* Pulmonology
* Urology

Of the more than 4,800 hospitals evaluated, only 147 were nationally ranked in one or more specialty.

“We pride ourselves on innovating to offer the latest evidence-based care for our patients, connecting them to all of the services they need and coordinating everything seamlessly to provide the best patient experience,” said Michael Mayo, hospital president, Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville. “These rankings are again a reminder that we are truly changing health care for good in Northeast Florida.”

“This is a tremendous honor and speaks volumes about the high-quality, compassionate care our physicians, nurses and staff provide every day,” said Ron Robinson, hospital president, Baptist Medical Center South.

U.S. News publishes Best Hospitals to help guide patients who need a high level of care because they face particularly difficult surgery, a challenging condition, or added risk because of other health problems or age. Objective measures such as patient survival and safety data, the adequacy of nurse staffing levels and other data largely determined the rankings in most specialties.

“A hospital that emerges from our analysis as one of the best has much to be proud of,” said Avery Comarow, U.S. News Health Rankings Editor. “Only about 15 percent of hospitals are recognized for their high performance as among their region’s best. Just 3 percent of all hospitals earn a national ranking in any specialty.”

The specialty rankings and data were produced for U.S. News by RTI International, a leading research organization based in Research Triangle Park, N.C. Using the same data, U.S. News produced the state and metro rankings.

The rankings have been published at <http://health.usnews.com/best-hospitals> and will appear in print in the U.S. News *Best Hospitals 2014* guidebook, available for purchase in August.

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***About Baptist Health***

*Baptist Health is a faith-based, mission-driven system comprised of Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville and* [*Baptist Heart Hospital*](http://community.e-baptisthealth.com/bmc/heart/index.html)*;* [*Baptist Medical Center Beaches*](http://community.e-baptisthealth.com/bmc/beaches/index.html)*;* [*Baptist Medical Center Nassau*](http://community.e-baptisthealth.com/bmc/nassau/index.html)*;* [*Baptist Medical Center South*](http://community.e-baptisthealth.com/bmc/south/index.html)*; and* [*Wolfson Children’s Hospital*](http://www.wolfsonchildrens.org/) *– Jacksonville’s only children’s hospital. All Baptist Health hospitals, along with* [*Baptist Home Health Care*](http://community.e-baptisthealth.com/services/clin_homehealth.html)*, have achieved Magnet™ status, an international quality designation that recognizes excellence in patient care. Baptist Health also includes cardiology and cardiovascular surgery services; a comprehensive cancer center; orthopaedic institute; women’s resource center; neurosciences, including neurosurgery and two Joint Commission-certified stroke centers; a full range of psychology and psychiatry services; outpatient facilities; urgent care services and a network of primary care physicians’ offices throughout Northeast Florida. Baptist Health is the official healthcare provider for the Jacksonville Jaguars. For more information, visit* [*www.baptistjax.com*](http://www.baptistjax.com)*. For information on Wolfson Children’s Hospital, visit* [*www.wolfsonchildrens.org*](http://www.wolfsonchildrens.org/)*.*