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**St. Mary's Receives Healthgrades Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence***St. Mary's ranked among Top 5 Percent of hospitals nationwide*

**SAN FRANCISCO (Jan. 21, 2014)** – St. Mary's Medical Center has received the Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence™ from Healthgrades, the leading online resource for information about physicians and hospitals. This award recognizes St. Mary's among the top 5 percent of more than 4,500 hospitals nationwide for clinical performance and one of only two in San Francisco.

Hospitals receiving the Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence demonstrated better than average quality care for patients undergoing treatment for up to 30 common conditions and procedures at these hospitals. This translates to a statistically significant lower likelihood of morbidity or complications when compared to other hospitals.

St. Mary's is one of only 260 hospitals across the U.S. to receive the Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence, and it adds another honor to a growing list of recognitions St. Mary's has received recently for excellence in clinical care and safety. Earlier this year, St. Mary's was recognized by *Becker's Hospital Review* as one of 100 hospitals in the U.S. with outstanding orthopedic programs. St. Mary's also received an "A" grade for hospital safety from the Leapfrog Group, which rates how well hospitals protect patients from accidents, errors, injuries and infections.

According to Healthgrades, hospitals who achieve the Clinical Excellence award have embedded quality into their culture. Variation in hospital performance exists locally as well as nationally. For example, of nine hospitals evaluated in San Francisco for treatment of heart failure, risk-adjusted in-hospital mortality rates ranged from 1.7 percent on the low end to 5.5 percent on the high end, which is more than a three-fold difference in mortality rates.

As a recipient of the Healthgrades Distinguished Hospital for Clinical Excellence award, St. Mary's stands out among the rest for overall clinical excellence across a broad spectrum of care.

"We are thrilled that St. Mary's has been recognized as a Distinguished Hospital by HealthGrades," said Anna Cheung, President of St. Mary's Medical Center in San Francisco. "Quality patient care and safety is our top priority at every level of our organization from our staff and nurses to our physicians and leadership team."

Additionally, St. Mary's Medical Center has received other recognitions from Healthgrades for several years in a row, including:

### **Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence, 2014**

#### **America's 100 Best Hospitals**

- Stroke Care, 2014
- Gastrointestinal Care, 2014
- General Surgery, 2014

#### **Top 5% of All Hospitals in the Nation**

- Stroke Care, two years in a row, 2013-2014
- Overall Gastrointestinal Services, 2014
- General Surgery, 2014
- Gastrointestinal Medical Treatment, 2014

#### **Five-Star Awards**

- Stroke Care, four years in a row, 2011-2014
- Bowel Obstruction, three years in a row, 2012-2014
- Bariatric Surgery, 2012
- Gynecologic Surgery, 2012
- Heart Failure, two years in a row, 2013-2014
- Sepsis, two years in a row, 2013-2014
- Esophageal/Stomach Surgeries, 2014
- Gastrointestinal Bleed, 2014
- Pancreatitis, 2014
- Pneumonia, 2014
- Respiratory Failure, 2014
- Spinal Fusion Surgery, 2014

#### **Excellence Awards**

- Stroke Care, two years in a row, 2013-2014
- Gastrointestinal Care, 2014
- General Surgery, 2014

#### **About St. Mary's Medical Center**

St. Mary's Medical Center, a Dignity Health Member, is an accredited, not-for-profit community hospital that has been caring for the people of the San Francisco since 1857. Located across from Golden Gate Park, it is longest continual running hospital in San Francisco. St. Mary's is home to the nation's first digital cardiac catheterization laboratory and has pioneered spine surgery like the X-Stop for the treatment of spinal stenosis. In 2014, St. Mary's was recognized as one of the Top 100 Orthopedic Programs nationally by Becker's Hospital Review and is a Certified Stroke Center by the Joint Commission. In 2011, St. Mary's opened a state-of-the-art Cancer Center, offering the full-range of oncology, radiation and imaging services, which is the only hospital in San Francisco with seven accreditations from the American College of Radiology. Beyond clinical care, St. Mary's is committed to furthering the healing ministry, and topoviding high-quality, affordable healthcare to the community we serve. For more information, please call 415-668-1000 or visit [www.stmarysmedicalcenter.org](http://www.stmarysmedicalcenter.org).

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