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West Florida Healthcare Earns an “A” Grade for Patient Safety in Leapfrog’s Spring 2016 Hospital Safety Score

West Florida Healthcare is the area’s only full-service hospital to have earned an “A” rating for patient safety from The Leapfrog Group and the “100Top Hospital” designation by Truven Health Analytics.

April 26, 2016 (Pensacola, FL) – An announcement released nationally today by the independent hospital watchdog [The Leapfrog Group](#) shows key shifts among many hospitals on the A, B, C, D and F grades rating them on errors, injuries, accidents, and infections. **West Florida Healthcare** is the area’s only full service hospital to earn an “A” in this elite national ratings program, recognizing their strong commitment to patient safety. This is the second consecutive time that West Florida Healthcare has earned an “A” rating. As further evidence of their commitment to patient safety and quality care, West Florida Healthcare is the only hospital in the area to have earned the “100 Top Hospitals in the Nation” by Truven Health Analytics for two years in a row.

“Receiving an “A” on hospital safety is a reflection of our dedication to providing evidence-based medicine that reduces variation in our delivery of care,” said **Christopher Dorvault, M.D.**, Chief of Staff, West Florida Healthcare. “Empowering our clinical staff to have a voice in the design of our processes in a collaborative way has a direct impact on our operations, clinical practice, patient care outcomes, and patient experience.”

The Hospital Safety Score is the gold standard rating for patient safety, compiled under the guidance of the nation’s leading patient safety experts and administered by [The Leapfrog Group](#), a national, independent nonprofit. The first and only hospital safety rating to be peer-reviewed in the *Journal of Patient Safety*, the Hospital Safety Score is free to the public and designed to give consumers information they can use to protect themselves and their families when facing a hospital stay.

“As a 100 Top Hospital in the Nation, receiving an “A” rating, particularly for two times in a row, is a reflection of the countless hours that our dedicated nurses, employees,

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physicians and volunteers spend improving our quality which results in better outcomes for our patients,” said **Brian Baumgardner**, president and CEO of West Florida Healthcare. “From creating processes that have led to the area’s shortest ER wait times and door-to-balloon times that beat the national average, to our focus on improving surgical outcomes and reducing infection, our team is leading the way in improving quality care for our community.”

“Our entire community can be proud of West Florida Healthcare’s “A” rating in patient safety by Leapfrog,” said **Jim Cronley**, Chairman, West Florida Healthcare Board of Trustees. “This “A” rating is a powerful reminder of West Florida Healthcare’s commitment to putting patient safety above all else.”

Developed under the guidance of Leapfrog’s Blue Ribbon Expert Panel, the Hospital Safety Score uses 28 measures of publicly-available hospital safety data to produce a single A, B, C, D, or F score, representing a hospital’s overall capacity to keep patients safe from preventable harm. Compared to an “A” hospital, a patient’s risk of dying corresponds with the hospitals’ letter grades as follows: “B” = 8.5%; “C” = 35.2%; and “D - F” = 49.8%. The Hospital Safety Score is fully transparent, offering a full analysis of the data and methodology used in determining grades on the website. Patients can also review their hospital’s past safety performance alongside its current grade on the Hospital Safety Score site, allowing them to determine which local hospitals have the best track record in patient safety and which have demonstrated consistent improvement.

To see West Florida Healthcare’s full score, and to access consumer-friendly tips for patients and loved ones visiting the hospital, visit www.hospitalsafetyscore.org or follow The Hospital Safety Score on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#). Consumers can also download the free Hospital Safety Score mobile app for Apple and Android devices.

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About The Leapfrog Group

Founded in 2000 by large employers and other purchasers, [The Leapfrog Group](#) is a national nonprofit organization driving a movement for giant leaps forward in the quality and safety of American health care. The flagship [Leapfrog Hospital Survey](#) collects and transparently reports hospital performance, empowering purchasers to find the highest-value care and giving consumers the lifesaving information they need to make informed



decisions. [Hospital Safety Score](#), Leapfrog's other main initiative, assigns letter grades to hospitals based on their record of patient safety, helping consumers protect themselves and their families from errors, injuries, accidents, and infections.

About West Florida Healthcare

The first hospital in the area to offer all private rooms, West Florida Healthcare proudly provides market-leading quality outcomes performance. Named for the second year in a row as one of the "100 Top Hospitals" in the nation by Truven Health Analytics, the facility has also been recognized as a Top Performer on Key Quality Measures for five years in a row by The Joint Commission. The area's first Accredited Chest Pain Center and Breast Imaging Center of Excellence, West Florida Hospital is also the first hospital in the state of Florida to have earned Atrial Fibrillation with Electrophysiology Services Accreditation. The hospital is also an Advanced Primary Stroke Center and offers specialized Emergency Department services tailored specifically to the needs of seniors as well as a Kids' ER dedicated to serving the emergency medical needs of children. The West Florida Healthcare campus includes the all private room acute care hospital, the area's only comprehensive, CARF-accredited physical rehabilitation hospital, and a mental health facility. Affiliated with HCA, the nation's leading provider of healthcare, West Florida Healthcare meets the community's healthcare needs in major services such as cardiology, cardiovascular surgery, oncology, orthopedics, robotic-assisted surgery, critical care, neurology/neurosurgery, emergency care, urology, behavioral health, gastroenterology, obstetrics, pulmonary, and rehabilitative medicine. For more information, visit www.westfloridahospital.com or call (850) 494-3212.