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# Methodology U.S. News & World Report 2024–2025 Best Hospitals: Specialty Rankings

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# **Executive Summary**

U.S. News & World Report began publishing hospital rankings in 1990, as "America's Best Hospitals," to identify the medical centers in various specialties best suited to patients whose illnesses pose unusual challenges because of underlying conditions, procedure difficulty, advanced age, or other medical issues that add risk.

The specialty rankings have appeared annually since 1990, and their focus on identifying hospitals that excel in treating patients with particularly difficult conditions has not changed. To address patients in relatively low-acuity procedures and conditions, a complementary set of ratings, "Best Hospitals: Procedures & Conditions" is available that covers abdominal aortic aneurysm repair; aortic valve surgery; back surgery (spinal fusion); chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; colon cancer surgery; coronary artery bypass surgery; diabetes; gynecological cancer surgery; heart attack; heart failure; hip fracture; hip replacement; kidney failure; knee replacement; leukemia, lymphoma, & myeloma; lung cancer surgery; pneumonia; prostate cancer surgery; stroke; and transcatheter aortic valve replacement. Details of these 20 ratings are available at <a href="http://health.usnews.com/health-care/best-hospitals/articles/faq-how-and-why-we-rank-and-rate-hospitals">http://health.usnews.com/health-care/best-hospitals/articles/faq-how-and-why-we-rank-and-rate-hospitals</a>.

The Best Hospitals specialty rankings assess hospital performance in 15 specialties or specialty areas, from Cancer to Urology. In 12 of these, whether and how high a hospital is ranked is determined by an extensive data-driven analysis combining performance measures in three primary dimensions of healthcare: structure, process, and outcomes. In the three other specialties, ranking relies solely on expert opinion.

The structural measures include hospital volume, nurse staffing, and other resources that define the hospital environment. The data source for most structural measures is the American Hospital Association (AHA) Annual Survey. Additional resources include the National Cancer Institute's list of Designated Cancer Centers and the American Nurses Credentialing Center's roster of Nurse Magnet hospitals. In addition to hospitals' inpatient volume, outpatient procedural volume is considered for certain specialties to reflect an increase in utilization of outpatient procedures.

Process is primarily determined by expert opinion surveys of board-certified physicians. We believe expert opinion can measure a hospital's ability to develop and sustain a system that delivers high-quality care. A separate indicator of public transparency was used in four specialties. In addition, patient experience was incorporated as a separate domain. The basis for this score is the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) patient satisfaction surveys.

Assessment of outcome performance relies on patient survival (i.e., risk-adjusted mortality) and the rate at which hospitals discharge patients to home following inpatient care. The Standard Analytical Files (SAF) inpatient limited datasets (SAF data), maintained by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and referred to as the Medicare claims files, provide detailed claims data, including mortality and discharge disposition for beneficiaries in fee-for-service Medicare. For mortality outcomes, starting with the 2024–2025 rankings, Medicare Advantage (MA) claims data found in the Medicare Provider Analysis and Review (MedPAR) datasets are also included in the analyses. In several specialties, in addition to the mortality and discharge outcomes, outpatient outcomes are evaluated. For this measure, both inpatient and outpatient SAF data were used to compute hospital-level ambulatory potentially preventable complication rates.

No application, data submission, or other action is required for Best Hospitals consideration. All facilities listed in the AHA Annual Survey Database are automatically considered whether or not they have responded to AHA's survey.

To be eligible for ranking, hospitals must meet certain criteria based on structural characteristics and meet a volume/discharge threshold that varies by specialty. Setting discharge minimums ensures that ranking-eligible hospitals have demonstrable experience in treating a set number of complex cases in a given specialty. A hospital that does not meet the minimum requirement in a specialty is still eligible, however, if it was nominated by at least 1% of those who responded to the most recent 3 years of national physician surveys.

Starting with the 2021–2022 rankings, the project introduced inpatient rehabilitation as a data-driven ranking, which was previously based on expert opinion only. Given the unique nature of rehabilitation care, this specialty has its own eligibility requirements, which are covered in **Section II.A.** Eligibility.

Rankings in Ophthalmology, Psychiatry, and Rheumatology are based solely on expert opinion as determined by the physician survey mentioned earlier.

For the 2024–2025 rankings, 160 of over 4,500 evaluated U.S. hospitals earned at least one top-50 ranking.

Since 1990, the Best Hospitals Honor Roll has recognized a small group of hospitals with high rankings in multiple Best Hospitals specialties. It was extensively revised in 2016–2017 to reduce the effect of the expert opinion measure and to unify the rankings and ratings by incorporating Best Hospitals Procedures & Conditions ratings. See *Section V. Honor Roll and Best Regional Hospitals* for more details.

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Ben Harder Managing Editor and Chief of Health Analysis U.S. News & World Report

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#### I. Introduction

For families facing a serious or complex medical problem, finding the right hospital is daunting but critical. Decision tools beyond a doctor's recommendation, however, were nonexistent until 1990, when *U.S. News & World Report* introduced "America's Best Hospitals." That initial assessment was modest, only short alphabetical lists of hospitals that were rated—not ranked—in 12 specialties. In 1991 and thereafter, hospitals were ordinally ranked.

The 2024–2025 Best Hospitals rankings have been drawn from a universe of 4,496 facilities.\* The defined universe was the American Hospital Association's (AHA's) Annual Survey of hospitals, which also provided some data for the rankings analysis. In a small number of cases, two or more AHA hospitals were combined for ranking purposes because they function as a single hospital in one or more specialties but report to AHA as separate facilities.

In 12 of the 15 adult specialty rankings, hospitals receive a composite score based on data from multiple sources. Information about unranked as well as ranked hospitals, accompanied by substantive data, is published online at <a href="https://www.usnews.com/besthospitals/rankings">www.usnews.com/besthospitals/rankings</a>.

The Best Hospitals rankings are designed to help consumers determine, together in consultation with their physicians, which hospitals provide the best care for the *most serious or complicated* medical conditions and procedures, such as pancreatic cancer, or replacement of a heart valve in an elderly patient with multiple comorbidities. Relatively commonplace conditions and procedures, such as uncomplicated heart bypass surgery, knee replacement, and heart failure are the focus of a different analysis, Best Hospitals: Procedures & Conditions.<sup>†</sup>

The underlying methodology for the Best Hospitals rankings was created by the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago in the early 1990s. NORC collected the data and compiled the rankings from 1993 to 2004. RTI International,<sup>‡</sup> Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, has produced the rankings from 2005 to the present. Over time, the methodology has been refined and extended—for example, including measures for voluntary data transparency in Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery (added in 2016–2017) and incorporating patient experience in all specialties (added in 2019). Large-scale enhancements are always under consideration, such as the change introduced in the 2019 rankings for outcomes where a new risk-adjusted mortality measure

<sup>\*</sup> Military installations, federal institutions, and acute long-term care facilities and institutional hospital units (e.g., prison hospitals, college infirmaries) are excluded from the data-driven specialties.

<sup>†</sup> Best Hospitals: Procedures & Conditions was launched in May 2015 and rates hospital performance in 20 procedures and conditions.

<sup>‡</sup> RTI International is a trade name of Research Triangle Institute. RTI and the RTI logo are U.S. registered trademarks of Research Triangle Institute.

and a measure of the rate at which hospitals discharge patients to home following inpatient care were introduced.

The roster of specialties has been revised over the years as well. HIV/AIDS care, for example, was included in 1990 but was dropped in 1998 because most HIV/AIDS care had shifted to the outpatient setting. Pediatrics was moved out of the Best Hospitals universe in 2007, when separate Best Children's Hospitals rankings were created. In the 2021–2022\* rankings, Nephrology was removed from the list of Best Hospitals specialties and was replaced with a kidney failure Procedures & Conditions rating, which covered nearly all of the same hospital admissions.

The current 15 specialty rankings are as follows:

- Cancer
- Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery
- Diabetes & Endocrinology
- Ear, Nose & Throat
- Gastroenterology & GI Surgery
- Geriatrics
- Obstetrics & Gynecology
- Neurology & Neurosurgery

- Ophthalmology
- Orthopedics
- Pulmonology & Lung Surgery
- Psychiatry
- Rehabilitation
- Rheumatology
- Urology

# A. Data-Driven Rankings

Rankings in 12 of the 15 specialties are based largely on objective data. An overall score (i.e., the *U.S. News* score) is assigned to hospitals in all data-driven specialties (i.e., all specialties other than Ophthalmology, Psychiatry, and Rheumatology, in which rankings are determined solely through expert opinion).

A hospital's overall score reflects performance in three interlocked dimensions of healthcare: structure, process, and outcomes. The relationship was described by Avedis Donabedian in 1966; his model's fundamental soundness has been widely accepted.<sup>1–5</sup>

<sup>\*</sup> Because the rankings are released in the middle of the year, U.S. News labels them with the current and following years when referring to them. This applies to the Best Children's Hospitals rankings as well.

Structure refers to hospital resources related directly to patient care. Examples in the Best Hospitals rankings methodology include intensity of nurse staffing, availability of desirable technologies and patient services, and special status conferred by a recognized external body, such as designation as a Nurse Magnet hospital by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or as a National Cancer Institute (NCI) comprehensive or clinical cancer center by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Healthcare also is shaped by the *process* of delivering care, encompassing diagnosis, treatment, prevention, and patient education. Because many direct measures of process have limited relevance to the types of highly complex specialty care that is the focus of this project, a measure of expert opinion is used as a proxy for process quality. Specifically, process is represented by the expert opinion of a hospital to develop and sustain a system that delivers high-quality care.

The most evident *outcomes* measure is death, typically measured by *risk-adjusted mortality* (the likelihood of death when the patient's condition and the complexity of the case are taken into account). To address the role of socioeconomic factors in outcomes, the rankings include an adjustment to risk-adjusted mortality to take into account patients who are both Medicare and Medicaid eligible. Another outcome included is discharging patients to home, which focuses on the rate at which patients go home directly after inpatient care rather than being transferred to another facility for continued care. This measures how effective inpatient care delivered by hospitals is at addressing patient medical needs. Beginning with the 2023–2024 rankings, an outcome measure that evaluates hospitals' ability to reduce complications related to procedures in outpatient settings was added in selected specialties. For the 2024–2025 rankings, this new outcome measure was used in three specialties: Ear, Nose & Throat; Orthopedics; and Urology.

Available metrics do not always neatly conform to a single dimension. *Patient experience*, for example, is an outcome that reflects both the patient's satisfaction with the care they received as well as how well the hospital addressed their medical needs. Although patient experience overlaps with both process and outcomes, we consider it a fourth component in the Best Hospitals methodology, evaluated separately from structure, process/expert opinion, and outcomes.

A fifth component, *public transparency*, was added to Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery for the 2016–2017 rankings. Hospitals received credit for participating in certain American College of Cardiology (ACC), Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS), or American Heart Association data-reporting initiatives if they also agreed to allow their ACC-, STS-, or American Heart Association—calculated results to be publicly reported on the organizations' websites. Beginning with the 2020–2021 rankings, hospitals that participate in and publicly report through the American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines (GWTG) stroke program received credit in Neurology & Neurosurgery rankings. A transparency credit was added to Obstetrics & Gynecology rankings for

the 2022–2023 rankings; hospitals received credit if they participated in the annual *U.S. News* Maternity Services Survey. Credit in Pulmonology & Lung Surgery was added in the 2023–2024 rankings for hospitals that participate in and publicly report via the STS General Thoracic Surgery Database (GTSD).

Many of the individual measures in the data-driven rankings come from secondary data sources such as the AHA Annual Survey Database, which provides information about various structural characteristics of hospitals.

The five major components of the data-driven rankings are briefly described as follows and in greater detail later in this report.

#### **Structure**

These elements represent volume (i.e., discharges), technology, and other features that characterize the hospital environment. Some elements such as nurse staffing, intensive care unit (ICU) specialists, and Nurse Magnet status are included in all specialties (except Rehabilitation), whereas other elements are specialty specific. The source for many of these data elements in the 2024–2025 rankings was the 2022 AHA Annual Survey, the most recent available.

The source of volume data was the Standard Analytical Files (SAF), maintained by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and referred to as the Medicare claims files, which provide detailed claims data for all traditional (fee-for-service) Medicare beneficiaries who use hospital inpatient services. Two specialties, Obstetrics & Gynecology and Ear, Nose & Throat, included procedures performed in hospital-based outpatient departments. These procedures were identified using the 3M<sup>TM</sup> Ambulatory Potentially Preventable Complication (AM-PPC) Methodology (the "3M AM-PCC Methodology") (Solventum, formerly 3M Health Care), which assigns each episode to a Procedure Sub Group (PSG) using Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) or International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD) codes (see *Table 6* for more details). To account for Medicare Advantage (MA) patients, volume was calculated for hospitals in each specialty using an adjustment described as follows (see the *Number of Patients* subsection under *Section II.B.* Structure). As a result, the volumes reported represent estimates rather than observed volumes of care at each hospital.

### **Process/Expert Opinion**

The process component of the overall score is represented by experts' opinion of a hospital. For these rankings, the concept of expert opinion speaks to an institutional ability to develop and sustain a system that delivers high-quality care to patients with especially challenging conditions.

A hospital's expert opinion score is based on the average number of nominations from the three most recent annual surveys of board-certified physicians conducted for the Best Hospitals rankings which, for the 2024–2025 rankings, were conducted in 2022, 2023, and 2024.

The 2024 sample was drawn from the Doximity Masterfile. (Doximity is the largest online professional network of U.S. physicians.) Similar to the American Medical Association (AMA) Physician Masterfile, which was used as the sampling frame prior to 2016, Doximity's comprehensive Physician Database includes nearly every practicing U.S. physician. More information on the sampling approach for the physician survey can be found in *Section II.D.* 

The physician sample was stratified by census region—Northeast, Midwest, South, and West (<a href="https://www2.census.gov/geo/pdfs/maps-data/maps/reference/us regdiv.pdf">https://www2.census.gov/geo/pdfs/maps-data/maps/reference/us regdiv.pdf</a>)—and by specialty to ensure appropriate representation. The final aggregated sample included both medical and osteopathic physicians in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The surveyed physicians were asked to nominate the hospitals in their specific field of care, leaving aside issues of expense or location, that they consider best for patients with serious or difficult conditions. They could list as many as five hospitals, and the scores were adjusted based on a physician's current affiliation. The effect of these adjustments is to give higher weight to the opinions of unaffiliated physicians than to those of affiliated physicians, particularly in cases where a hospital received a relatively large proportion of its nominations from affiliated physicians.

#### **Outcomes**

*Process/Expert* Opinion.

The primary outcomes measure in 11 of the 12 data-driven rankings (except Rehabilitation) is 30-day patient survival (i.e., how many patients are alive at 30 days after inpatient hospital admission). In addition to the mortality measure derived from SAF data, which encompasses patients receiving care under traditional Medicare and aged 65 or older, beginning with the 2024–2025 rankings, visits by MA-insured patients aged 65 or older and included in Medicare Provider Analysis and Review (MedPAR) data were also evaluated for survival outcomes. For each hospital and specialty, U.S. News computed an adjusted mortality rate based on the Medicare Severity Diagnosis-Related Group (MS-DRG) appearing in the SAF data for the group of MS-DRGs that appear in *Appendix B* for each of the specialties. This method was applied to the three most recent calendar years (CY2020, CY2021, and CY2022) of Medicare claims submitted for reimbursement to CMS that appeared in the SAF data. Likewise, a risk-adjusted mortality rate based on these MS-DRGs and specifically for MA patients appearing in the MedPAR data is computed for that hospital and specialty, although the time frame spans the duration of the three most recent fiscal years

(FY2020, FY2021, and FY2022) due to the update cycle of the MedPAR Limited Data Set (LDS) file.

Starting with the 2019–2020 rankings, a discharging patients to home measure was included. This measure reflects the risk-adjusted rate at which traditional Medicare patients are discharged to home rather than to another facility (e.g., skilled nursing facility [SNF], long-term acute care facility, another acute care hospital) for additional care. MA beneficiaries were not included in this measure because insurer-specific authorization practices related to post-acute care may contribute to variation in utilization.

Both of the claims-based outcomes described earlier were risk adjusted using a hierarchical logistic regression model that controlled for potential confounders, with a random intercept for hospital identity. Details on the model specified for each cohort are described in *Section II.C.* 

Outcomes. In all instances, continuous variables were treated as such in our composite modeling in order to make maximum use of the information contained in the variable and to minimize the risk of measurement error due to categorization.

In Ear, Nose & Throat; Orthopedics; and Urology, an outcome measure of potentially preventable complications following certain outpatient procedures was included in the methodology. This measure is described in *Section II.C.* Outcomes.

For inpatient rehabilitation, mortality is not a meaningful outcome because it rarely occurs, and the main focus of treatment is on functional improvement, community discharge, and avoidance of future acute care where possible. As a result, the Rehabilitation rankings now include measures focused on avoiding readmissions and successful discharge to the community. These measures are described in more detail in *Section II.C.* Outcomes.

#### **Patient Experience**

Patient experience is used to assess the patient-reported outcomes of care at hospitals eligible for the rankings. This measure reflects the patient experience of care as reported on the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) survey of recently discharged patients or family members for patients who have died since hospital discharge. The rankings utilize the linear mean score rather than the HCAHPS star rating for the ranking calculation because the former is a continuous measure and provides more information for analysis. However, the star ratings are shown in the ranking tables online and in the methodology report because they provide an accessible and easy way for consumers to understand the score. The HCAHPS dataset used for analysis was dated April 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023.

#### **Public Transparency**

In the Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery; Obstetrics & Gynecology; Neurology & Neurosurgery; and Pulmonology & Lung Surgery specialty rankings, hospitals receive a credit if they participate in and publicly report via key clinical registries or public transparency programs. A brief description of the transparency measures is provided as follows.

In the Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery specialty, since 2016, hospitals have received credit worth up to 3% of the overall score for participating in transparency initiatives. This year, hospitals received credit by publicly reporting quality metrics through websites maintained by ACC (www.cardiosmart.org), STS (www.sts.org), and the American Heart Association (https://qualitynearme.heart.org/GWTGPublicReporting). This year's rankings considered each hospital's public reporting status as of August 31, 2023, for the American Heart Association registry; December 29, 2023, for the ACC registry; and July 17, 2023, for the STS registry. Support for the use of this measure consists of a demonstrated association between public reporting of evidence-based hospital performance metrics with better quality of care and improved hospital performance.<sup>6-</sup>

A similar transparency measure, added in 2020, is worth 3% of the overall score for the Neurology & Neurosurgery specialty. Hospitals voluntarily reporting stroke care measures to the public through the American Heart Association's GWTG-Stroke quality improvement program (<a href="https://www.heart.org/en/professional/quality-improvement/get-with-the-guidelines/get-with-the-guidelines/get-with-the-guidelines-stroke">https://www.heart.org/en/professional/quality-improvement/get-with-the-guidelines/get-with-the-guidelines-stroke</a>) as of August 31, 2023, received credit.

A similar transparency measure, added in 2022, is worth 3% of the overall score for the Obstetrics & Gynecology specialty. Hospitals voluntarily reporting on the U.S. News Maternity Services Survey in 2023 received credit; U.S. News uses data from the Maternity Services Survey to produce Best Hospitals for Maternity Care ratings.

A similar transparency measure, added in 2023, is worth 3% of the overall score for the Pulmonology & Lung Surgery specialty. Hospitals that submit their lobectomy data via the STS GTSD and were publicly reporting their results by September 4, 2023, were recognized in the rankings.

# Weighting

Weights are shown in *Table 1*.

Table 1. 2024-2025 Overall Weight, by Component

Component	Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery; Obstetrics & Gynecology; Neurology & Neurosurgery; and Pulmonology & Lung Surgery	Rehabilitation	All Other Specialties
Outcomes	45%	30%	45%
Structure	35%	38%	35%
Process/expert opinion	12%	32%	15%
Patient experience	5%	0%	5%
Public transparency	3%	0%	0%

#### B. Expert Opinion-Based Rankings

In three specialties—Ophthalmology, Psychiatry, and Rheumatology—ranking reflects the results of the expert opinion survey alone because many structural and outcomes measures are not applicable since care is largely delivered on an outpatient basis and poses a very small risk of death. For this report, these specialties are referred to as *expert opinion—based specialties* and the associated rankings as *expert opinion—based rankings*.

### C. Report Outline

The remainder of this report is structured as follows:

- **Section II.** Data-Driven Rankings describes the data-driven components in detail. (For a more detailed review of the foundation, development, and use of the individual measures and the composite index, see "Best Hospitals': A Description of the Methodology for the Index of Hospital Quality."<sup>12</sup>)
- **Section III.** Expert Opinion–Based Specialties describes the process used to develop the rankings for the three expert opinion–based specialties.
- **Section IV.** Number of Ranked Hospitals describes the number of hospitals ranked in at least one specialty.
- **Section V**. Honor Roll and Best Regional Hospitals presents the Honor Roll, an additional classification that denotes excellence across a broad range of specialties, procedures, and conditions.
- **Section VI.** Changes to the Methodology for 2024–2025 summarizes changes in the methodology for the current year.
- Section VII. Future Enhancements describes enhancements under consideration.
- Section VIII includes contact information for the Best Hospitals research team.

# II. Data-Driven Rankings

This section describes hospital eligibility criteria and the procedures used to derive the overall score for the 12 data-driven specialties.

#### A. Eligibility

All 4,496 community hospitals included in the FY2022 AHA universe were automatically considered for ranking;\* no request, application, or other action was required. For the data-driven specialties other than Rehabilitation, the methodology involved two stages of eligibility criteria; hospitals had to satisfy the requirements of each stage to be eligible in a given specialty.

**Stage 1.** A hospital that met *any* of the following criteria was initially eligible:

- Member, Council of Teaching Hospitals and Health Systems (COTH)
- Medical school affiliation (AMA or American Osteopathic Association [AOA])
- At least 200 hospital beds set up and staffed (from the FY2022 AHA Annual Survey, variable BDTOT)
- At least 100 hospital beds set up and staffed *and* availability of at least four of eight important key technologies (see the *Advanced Technologies* subsection).

Hospitals that met Stage 1 criteria and responded to the AHA Annual Survey in 2020 and 2021 but not in 2022 remained eligible. For such hospitals, we used survey data from 2021. Nonresponders lacking data from the current survey and one of the previous two surveys were evaluated without AHA data. A total of 2,281 hospitals successfully passed the first stage of the eligibility process.

Stage 2. To be eligible for ranking in a specialty, a hospital had to have a specified number of discharges in a defined list of specialty-specific diagnoses submitted for CMS reimbursement in CY2020, CY2021, and CY2022 combined. In the Obstetrics & Gynecology and Ear, Nose & Throat specialties, outpatient procedural volume was incorporated when computing discharge minimums. Setting discharge minimums involving complex care ensures that ranking-eligible hospitals can demonstrate that they have treated adequate numbers of challenging cases in a given specialty. Minimums for all specialties will be reviewed for future rankings and adjusted as needed.

<sup>\*</sup> Military installations, federal institutions, rehabilitation acute long-term care facilities, and institutional hospital units (e.g., prison hospitals, college infirmaries) were excluded.

Table 2 presents the minimum MA-adjusted discharge volumes (unless otherwise specified) required for eligibility and numbers of hospitals meeting the MA-adjusted volume criteria for the data-driven specialties (see Section II.B. Structure). In Diabetes & Endocrinology; Ear, Nose & Throat; and Obstetrics & Gynecology, both the MA-adjusted volume and unadjusted volume were considered, and hospitals had to have volumes that met the minimum values for each. Additionally, in Ear, Nose & Throat and Obstetrics & Gynecology, outpatient data were included in the total discharge volume. Therefore, hospitals in these specialties had to meet both total volume and inpatient volume thresholds.

Table 2. Discharge Thresholds, by Specialty

Specialty	Total Discharge Minimum (unadjusted)	Inpatient Minimum (unadjusted)	Total Discharge Minimum (MA adjusted)	Surgical Minimum (MA adjusted)
Cancer	_	_	184	36
Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery	_	_	1,656	800
Diabetes & Endocrinology	210	_	234	_
Ear, Nose & Throat <sup>a</sup>	240	80	10	3
Gastroenterology & GI Surgery	_	_	422	113
Geriatrics	_	_	2,688	_
Neurology & Neurosurgery	_	_	244	20
Obstetrics & Gynecology <sup>a</sup>	200	67	14	4
Orthopedics	_	_	268	239
Pulmonology & Lung Surgery	_	_	1,304	
Rehabilitation	50	_	_	_
Urology	_	_	40	16

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Total discharge minimums for this specialty incorporate outpatient volume.

If a hospital did not meet the volume requirements, it was still considered eligible in a specialty if its expert opinion score was 1% or greater. The total number of hospitals in each specialty that became eligible due to their expert opinion score is also shown in *Table 3*.

A total of 2,279 hospitals met the volume criteria in at least one specialty, and 8 other hospitals became eligible because they had a 1% or higher expert opinion score in at least one specialty. In all, 2,287 unique hospitals were eligible for at least one data-driven ranking.

Table 3. Number of Eligible Hospitals, by Specialty

Specialty	Additional Eligibility Criteria	Number of Eligible Hospitals Based on Minimum Discharges	Additional Hospitals with ≥1% Expert Opinion Score	Final Eligible Total
Cancer		885	1	886
Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery	Must be eligible for Procedures & Conditions in one of the cardiac services cohorts for the current year	778	0	778
Diabetes & Endocrinology		659	1	660
Ear, Nose & Throat		134	3	137
Gastroenterology & GI Surgery		1,569	0	1,569
Geriatrics	Must offer at least one of the following services:  - Arthritis treatment center  - Adult day care program  - Patient representative services  - Geriatric services  - Meal delivery  - Assisted living  - Transportation to health facility  - Alzheimer's center service	1,489	0	1,489
Neurology & Neurosurgery	Must have a ratio of surgical to total discharges at or above the 25th percentile	1,227	0	1,227
Obstetrics & Gynecology	Must be eligible for the U.S. News Maternity Services Survey for the current year	255	2	257
Orthopedics		1,647	0	1,647
Pulmonology & Lung Surgery	Must have a ratio of sepsis cases to all other cases that is lower than 3 standard deviations above the mean	1,668	0	1,668
Rehabilitation		1,046	3	1,049
Urology		1,480	0	1,480
	Total (unique hospitals) <sup>a</sup>	2,285	2	2,287

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> The totals are not sums. The same hospitals may be eligible in multiple specialties. This line represents the total unique hospitals in each category across all specialties.

In Geriatrics, an additional step excluded hospitals classified in the AHA Annual Survey data as surgical hospitals or as specializing in cancer, cardiology, or orthopedics. The basis for the exclusions was that Geriatrics as defined in Best Hospitals represents a broad swath of patients across all service lines. A surgical or specialty hospital treats subsets of those patients whose clinical needs may not be comparable. Similarly, cancer hospitals were excluded from Diabetes & Endocrinology, Orthopedics, Neurology & Neurosurgery, and Pulmonology & Lung Surgery.

Starting with the 2024–2025 rankings, we excluded from our analysis a small number of hospitals whose fee-for-service claims data exhibited certain unusual patterns, such as unexpectedly high prevalence of certain rare comorbidities or combinations of comorbidities. Because coding practices at those hospitals appeared to be anomalous, we concluded it was appropriate to exclude their claims from outcomes models and treat those hospitals as ineligible for the rankings.

We then conducted separate analyses for each specialty to rank the top 50 hospitals in each data-driven specialty and provide overall scores for all evaluated hospitals. *Figure 1* illustrates the eligibility and analysis process for the data-driven specialties, as described in the steps earlier.

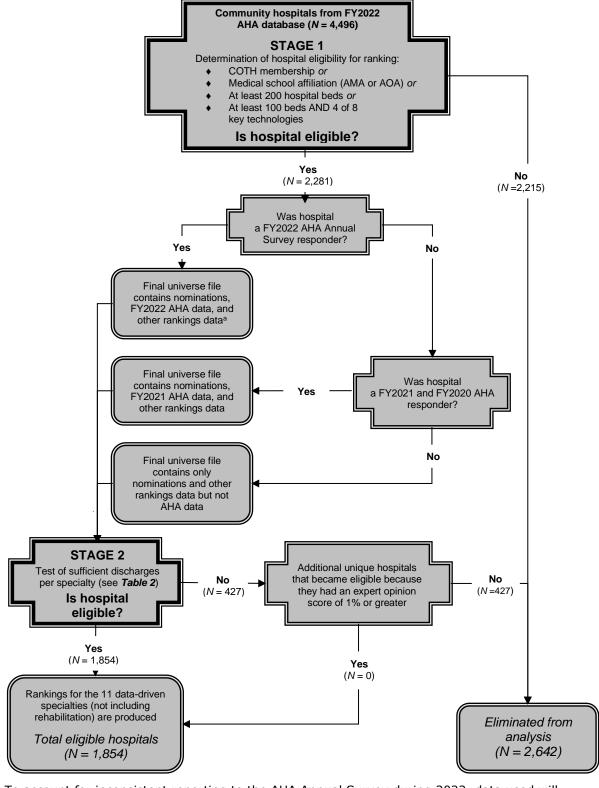


Figure 1. Eligibility Process, Data-Driven Specialties (Excluding Rehabilitation)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> To account for inconsistent reporting to the AHA Annual Survey during 2022, data used will incorporate the most recent available measures from FY2020, FY2021, or FY2022.

#### **Eligibility Requirements for Rehabilitation**

No application, data submission, or other action is required by inpatient rehabilitation facilities (IRFs) to be considered in the Rehabilitation specialty rankings. Except for military and federally owned hospitals, all facilities listed in the AHA Annual Survey Database of U.S. hospitals are automatically considered, but, as with other Best Hospitals specialty rankings, must meet a series of eligibility requirements in order to be evaluated in Rehabilitation. Eligibility in Rehabilitation has two paths for consideration. For the first path to eligibility, facilities are eligible if they appear in the December 2023 public use files for the CMS Care Compare reporting program under the "inpatient rehabilitation facilities" provider type (https://www.medicare.gov/carecompare/?providerType=InpatientRehabilitation) and have an aggregate volume of "Conditions treated" in Stroke, Brain injury (traumatic), Brain disease or condition (non-traumatic), Spinal cord injury (traumatic), Spinal cord disease or condition (non-traumatic), and Nervous system disorder (excluding stroke) of 50 or more in Care Compare. If available from the Uniform Data System for Medical Rehabilitation (UDSMR)\* or American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association's eRehabData, two key registries in rehabilitation, all-payer volumes for these conditions have been used to determine eligibility. Note that for certain conditions, a facility's Medicare volume, as reported in Care Compare, may be substantially lower than its total volume. A total of 1,046 hospitals were eligible in Rehabilitation under these criteria.

A second path is also available for facilities that provide acute inpatient rehabilitation services but are not included in the IRF component of Care Compare reporting, including many IRFs located in Maryland (which may opt in to but are not required to participate in the IRF Prospective Payment System [PPS]) and certain specialized long-term care hospitals. Specifically, hospitals that were exempt from the IRF component of Care Compare and had an expert opinion score of 1% or higher based on the most recent 3 years of U.S. News national physician surveys in rehabilitation are eligible, regardless of whether they meet all the criteria for the first path for eligibility. An additional three hospitals qualified under this path to eligibility. In total, 1,049 hospitals were eligible to be ranked in Rehabilitation. Many, but not all, of these hospitals were also eligible in other data-driven specialties.

Being eligible for ranking does not guarantee that a hospital will be ranked. Although all eligible hospitals are assigned a score in Rehabilitation, only those achieving the highest scores are ranked as Best Hospitals (i.e., 1–50).

<sup>\*</sup>https://www.udsmr.org/

<sup>†</sup>https://web2.erehabdata.com/erehabdata/index.jsp

In addition, although not being eligible, facilities listed in the AHA Annual Survey Database as having a primary service code indicating that they are a rehabilitation hospital (AHA variable: SERV=46), the AHA service of "physical rehabilitation care" (AHA variable: REHABHOS) and are located in Maryland, or have received accreditation for inpatient rehabilitation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF International) are considered to be rehabilitation facilities and are listed in the directory on the U.S. News website but have not received scores or a rank. There were 126 such rehabilitation facilities.

#### **B.** Structure

The structural dimension defines the resources, human and otherwise, available at hospitals for treating patients. Healthcare research overwhelmingly supports the use of a structural measure to assess quality of care. No prior research, however, has identified a structural indicator that summarizes all others or that adequately represents the structural dimension construct on its own. Therefore, the structural component is represented by a composite variable consisting of different specialty-specific measures with different weights.

For the 2024–2025 rankings, the source of most structural elements was the FY2022 AHA Annual Survey Database. Additional components came from external organizations, including NCI, ANCC, Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT), National Institute on Aging (NIA), National Association of Epilepsy Centers (NAEC), CARF, NIH, American Hospital Directory, and CMS.

### **AHA Annual Survey**

AHA has surveyed hospitals annually since 1946. The AHA Annual Survey is the most comprehensive and dependable database of information on institutional healthcare, <sup>13</sup> with an average annual response rate of 80%. The database contains hospital-specific data items for more than 6,100 hospitals and healthcare systems. More than 1,300 data fields cover organizational structure, personnel, hospital facilities and services, and financial performance. (The specific mapping of Best Hospitals variables to AHA data elements is shown in *Appendix A*.)

Hospitals that did not respond to the 2022 AHA Annual Survey but responded to the 2021 survey were evaluated using their 2021 responses. Hospitals that did not respond to the AHA Annual Survey in either year were evaluated without AHA data, receiving no points for measures in the AHA Annual Survey.

The following items from the AHA Annual Survey Database provided most of the structural score for the data-driven specialties.

#### Advanced Technologies

The elements in this measure are reviewed every year in each specialty to remain consistent with the key technologies and advanced care expected from a "best hospital." Credit was awarded to hospitals that (1) own or provide a specified service at the hospital or its subsidiaries, (2) provide the service through their health system (in their local community), or (3) provide the service through formal arrangements with local institutions not in their health system.

Of the 15 technologies that are relevant in one or more specialties, 8 comprise the Technology index that is one of the eligibility doorways: Hospitals that provide at least four of the eight relevant technologies and have 100 beds or more are eligible for ranking (see *Section II.A.* Eligibility).

Brief descriptions of the technologies in the 2024–2025 index follow. The definitions are taken largely from the 2022 AHA Annual Survey, expanded as necessary:

- **Ablation of Barrett's esophagus.** A premalignant condition that can lead to adenocarcinoma of the esophagus. The nonsurgical ablation of premalignant tissue in Barrett's esophagus is done by the application of thermal energy or light through an endoscope passed from the mouth into the esophagus.
- Assistive technology center. A program providing access to specialized hardware
  and software, with adaptations allowing individuals greater independence with
  mobility, dexterity, or increased communication options.
- Computed tomography (CT) scanner. Computed tomographic scanner for head or whole-body scans.
- **Computer-assisted orthopedic surgery.** A group of orthopedic devices that produce three-dimensional images to assist in surgical procedures.
- **Diagnostic radioisotope services.** A procedure that uses radioactive isotopes (radiopharmaceuticals) as tracers to detect abnormal conditions or diseases.
- **Electrodiagnostic services.** Diagnostic testing services for nerve and muscle function such as nerve conduction studies and needle electromyography.
- Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography. A procedure in which a catheter is introduced through an endoscope into the bile and pancreatic ducts. Injection of contrast material permits detailed x-ray of these structures. The procedure is used diagnostically as well as therapeutically to relieve obstruction or remove stones.

- Endoscopic ultrasound. A specially designed endoscope that incorporates an ultrasound transducer to obtain detailed images of organs in the chest and abdomen. The endoscope can be passed through the mouth or anus. Combined with needle biopsy, the procedure can assist in diagnosis of disease and staging of cancer.
- Full-field digital mammography. A procedure that combines x-ray generators and tubes used in analog screen-film mammography with a detector plate that converts the x-rays into a digital signal to help diagnose breast cancer.
- Image-guided radiation therapy. An automated system that provides highresolution x-ray images to pinpoint tumor sites, adjusts patient positioning as necessary, and completes treatment within the standard treatment time slot, allowing for more effective cancer treatments.
- Intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT). A type of radiation therapy used to treat tumors. IMRT manipulates beams of radiation to the shape of the tumor. Beams of varying intensity can be used to radiate the tumor with precision. By using IMRT, physicians can focus on the tumor and avoid exposing healthy tissue to radiation, which causes a variety of negative treatment side effects.
- Multislice spiral CT. A procedure that uses x-rays and data processing to produce multiple narrow slices that can be recombined into detailed three-dimensional pictures of the internal anatomy.\*
- Positron emission tomography (PET)/CT scanner. A machine that combines PET and CT capabilities in one device to provide metabolic functional information and images of physical structures in the body for diagnostics and monitoring chemotherapy, radiotherapy, and surgical planning.
- **Prosthetic and orthotic services.** Services providing comprehensive prosthetic and orthotic evaluation, fitting, and training.
- Robot-assisted walking therapy. A form of physical therapy that uses a robotic device to assist patients who are relearning how to walk.
- **Robotic surgery.** The use of computer-guided imaging and manipulative devices to perform surgery without the surgeon's direct intervention.
- **Shaped-beam radiation.** A noninvasive procedure that delivers a therapeutic dose of radiation to a defined area of a tumor to shrink or destroy cancerous cells.

<sup>\*</sup>The indicator for multislice spiral CT includes both standard (fewer than 64 slices) and advanced (64 or more slices) versions of the technology. Hospitals can receive credit for either version.

- **Simulated rehabilitation environment.** Rehabilitation focused on retraining functional skills in a contextually appropriate environment (simulated home and community settings) or in a traditional setting (gymnasium) using motor learning principles.
- **Single-photon-emission CT.** A nuclear medicine imaging technology that combines radioactive material with CT imaging to highlight blood flow to tissues and organs.
- Stereotactic radiosurgery. A radiotherapy modality that delivers a high dosage of radiation to a discrete treatment area in as few as one treatment session. Variants include Gamma Knife and CyberKnife.
- Transplant services. Includes Medicare-approved organ transplant programs in heart, liver, lung, or kidney transplant recognized by CMS. In addition, hospitals listed as bone marrow and tissue transplant centers by AHA are recognized. Transplant services are specific to the specialty. In the Cancer specialty, transplant services include bone marrow and other tissue transplants; Gastroenterology & GI Surgery includes liver transplant; Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery includes heart transplant and tissue transplant; Pulmonology & Lung Surgery includes lung transplant; and Orthopedics includes tissue transplant.

Specialty-specific mixes of key technologies are used in computing the U.S. News scores (see *Section II.G. Calculation of the Overall Score for the Data-Driven* Specialties). *Table 4* presents the complete list of key technologies considered for each specialty.

#### Number of Patients

This measure reflects the volume of medical and surgical discharges in indicated specialty-specific MS-DRGs submitted for CMS reimbursement in CY2020, CY2021, and CY2022 combined. The list of MS-DRGs in each specialty is displayed in *Appendix B*. Volume is part of the structural score in all 12 data-driven specialties. Volumes include all cases, including transfers, that appeared in SAF data for the specified MS-DRGs listed in *Appendix B*. Volume data, as described in *Section II.A*. Eligibility, include Medicare fee-for-service patients who were aged 65 or older; MA managed-care patients are not included in SAF data. To account for MA patients, reported volumes received an adjustment based on the volume reported in the MedPAR datasets, which include both traditional Medicare and MA patients. An adjustment was calculated for each hospital based on the proportion of MA patients found in the MedPAR datasets for the same time period as the SAF dataset. The total SAF volume of hospital care for each specialty was then adjusted by this factor.

For two specialties, Obstetrics & Gynecology and Ear, Nose & Throat, the adjustment was made after combining inpatient and outpatient volume. In doing so, the cap was imposed based on a

2:1 outpatient to inpatient volume ratio in order to depress the influence of extreme outliers. This MA-adjusted volume was then used for the volume measure in each specialty. MedPAR data were not available for a small number of eligible hospitals, so, for these hospitals only, we estimated the MA-adjustment based on the location of the hospital—specifically the MA penetration rate for the county where the hospital is located. The numerator for this location-based calculation was the number of fee-for-service discharges meeting the criteria for inclusion in the specialty. The denominator was the proportion of Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in fee for service (as opposed to MA) in the county in which the hospital is located. The denominator was calculated by subtracting from 1.0 the CMS MA penetration estimates, expressed as a decimal less than 1.0, for July 2021, the approximate midpoint of the analysis time period.

As a result of these methods, the volumes reported represent estimates rather than observed volumes of care at each hospital.

Table 4. Technologies, by Specialty

Table 4. Technologies, by Specialty													
Technology	Technology Index	Cancer	Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery <sup>a</sup>	Diabetes & Endocrinology	Ear, Nose & Throat	Gastroenterology & GI Surgery	Geriatrics	Neurology & Neurosurgery	Obstetrics & Gynecology	Orthopedics	Pulmonology & Lung Surgery	Rehabilitation	Urology
Ablation of Barrett's esophagus						•							
Assistive technology center												•	
CT scanner												•	
Computer-assisted orthopedic surgery										•			
Diagnostic radioisotope services	•			•		•		•			•		•
Electrodiagnostic services												•	
Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography						•							
Endoscopic ultrasound						•							
Full-field digital mammography	•	•							•				
Image-guided radiation therapy	•	•		•		•		•	•		•		•
IMRT		•											•
Multislice spiral CT	•		•								•		
PET/CT scanner	•	•	•	•				•	•		•	•	•
Prosthetic and orthotic services												•	
Robot-assisted walking therapy												•	
Robotic surgery	•	•	•						•				•
Shaped-beam radiation		•											
Simulated rehabilitation environment												•	
Single-photon-emission CT	•		•					•					
Stereotactic radiosurgery	•	•		•	•	•		•	•		•		•
Transplant services		•	•			•				•	•		
Total Elements	8	8	6	4	1	7	0	5	5	2	6	7	6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Five measures are listed, but hospitals can receive up to 6 points in Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery because 2 points are possible for transplant services—1 point for heart transplant services and 1 point for tissue transplant services.

To reduce the effect of outliers, we imposed a threshold on the volume. If a hospital's MA-adjusted volume is greater than a modified Z-score of 3 in each specialty, it is winsorized and

<sup>•</sup> Included in the measure for the specialty.

replaced with the volume that corresponds to the minimum observed volume with a modified Z-score greater than 3.

The formula for the modified Z-score is 0.6745(xi-x) / (1.4826\*MAD), where:

xi: Hospital's own value

x: The median across all hospitals

MAD: The median absolute deviation across all hospitals

*Table 5* includes the thresholds created for each of the specialties.

**Table 5. Winsorized Volume Thresholds, by Specialty** 

Specialty	Winsorized Volume Threshold
Cancer	1,893
Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery	12,122
Diabetes & Endocrinology	1,400
Ear, Nose & Throat	2,027
Gastroenterology & GI Surgery	4,573
Geriatrics	28,817
Neurology & Neurosurgery	5,471
Obstetrics & Gynecology	1,519
Orthopedics	3,757
Pulmonology & Lung Surgery	10,458
Urology	499

#### Outpatient Volume for Ear, Nose & Throat and Obstetrics & Gynecology

In recognition that a large proportion of care is provided on an outpatient basis, the rankings include certain outpatient procedural cases in the total volume for Ear, Nose & Throat and Obstetrics & Gynecology. To identify outpatient procedures in these specialties, we applied the 3M AM-PPC Methodology to Medicare hospital outpatient department claims data for 2020 to 2022. *Table 6* provides the list of PSGs for two specialties.

**Table 6. List of PSGs for Outpatient Volume** 

	Obstetrics & Gynecology	Ear, Nose & Throat					
PSG	PSG Description	PSG	PSG Description				
44	Female genitourinary procedures	34	Facial and ear, nose, and throat procedures				
50	Hysteroscopy	116	Tympanoplasty and other ear procedures				
144	44 Hysterectomy and myomectomy		Thyroid and parathyroid procedures				
145	Other gynecologic procedures	135	Tonsil and adenoid procedures				
146	Uterine and adnexa procedures	136	Cleft lip and palate repair				
147	Cystocele, rectocele, and other vaginal wall repairs						

#### Volume for Rehabilitation

For the Rehabilitation rankings, volume of care serves as a key indicator of quality. For the volume data, we utilize data from the IRF component of the Care Compare (IRF Care Compare) website maintained by CMS. In addition, two key rehabilitation registries (UDSMR and eRehabData) allowed hospitals to opt into public reporting with U.S. News for the Rehabilitation rankings through early January 2024.\* The volume measure focuses on the patient volume for certain conditions, specifically stroke, traumatic brain injury, traumatic spinal cord injury, non-traumatic brain injury, non-traumatic spinal cord injury, and other neurological conditions. For hospitals that participate in public reporting, the rankings compare available volumes for each of the six conditions from CMS and the registries using the largest volume available for scoring purposes. Note that to qualify for use of registry data, a hospital had to appear in IRF Care Compare and meet the minimum volume requirement. For hospitals that have treated one or more cases but fewer than 11, we treat them as having a value of 10 for purposes of scoring. Each of these volume measures are scored separately relative to all other eligible hospitals and are given a weight of 3%; the six volume measures together represent a total of 18% of the overall ranking in Rehabilitation.

#### Nurse Staffing

The nurse staffing index is a ratio that reflects the combined intensity of inpatient and outpatient nursing. The numerator is the total number of on-staff registered nurses (RNs), expressed as full-time equivalents (FTEs); for example, two half-time nurses are the equivalent of one FTE. Only nurses with an RN degree from an approved nursing school and current state registration are

<sup>\*</sup> Note that *U.S. News* plans to continue working with both registries so that hospitals will be able to opt in to public reporting in the future.

considered. The denominator is the adjusted average daily census of patients, a variable created by AHA for *U.S. News*.

The measure estimates the total amount of care devoted to both inpatients and outpatients by reflecting days of inpatient care plus the estimated volume of outpatients. This index gives more weight to inpatient care while recognizing that outpatient care represents most hospital visits. The components of this index are derived from the AHA Annual Survey Database. As with volume, extreme values were similarly adjusted to reduce the influence of wide variation. Values exceeding a modified Z-score of 3 are set to the value corresponding to a modified Z-score of 3. The formula for the modified Z-score is  $0.6745(xi - \tilde{x}) / 1.4826*MAD$ , where:

xi: Hospital's own value

x: The median across all hospitals

MAD: The median absolute deviation across all hospitals

The calculation includes a correction for hospitals that provide skilled nursing on site and report a total that combines both inpatient and skilled nursing. The nursing FTEs associated with skilled nursing were removed from the numerator, and a corrected adjusted average daily census was used for the denominator. The corrected adjusted average daily census values for hospitals affected by this change were calculated by AHA and provided directly to the project.

To address problems with missing values in the AHA dataset for several hospitals for the FTEN variable, which is the principal nursing FTE variable, the rankings impute missing FTEN values. The project selects hospitals that do not have extreme nurse staffing ratios (i.e., are not outliers) and imputes the value of FTEN using the current values of the following variables in the reference population: FTEN (FTE RNs reported), FTERN (FTE RNs estimated), ADJADC (adjusted average daily census), and BDTOT (total hospital beds set up and staffed).

Note that the nurse staffing measure is not used in Rehabilitation because there is no adequate measure of nurse staffing that can be specifically applied to rehabilitation facilities from the AHA data at the present time.

#### Trauma Center

In a past *U.S. News* survey of board-certified physicians, respondents ranked the presence of an emergency room and status as a Level 1 or Level 2 trauma care provider high on a list of hospital quality indicators. Physicians in nine specialties ranked trauma center status as one of the top five indicators of quality. Their recommendations and analyses showing a strong relationship with other quality factors supported inclusion of a trauma measure in Ear, Nose & Throat; Gastroenterology &

GI Surgery; Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery; Neurology & Neurosurgery; Orthopedics; Pulmonology & Lung Surgery; and Urology.

Two variables in the AHA Annual Survey Database provide the required data. Both must be answered. One variable indicates the presence of a state-certified trauma center in the hospital (as opposed to trauma services provided only as part of a health system or joint venture). For hospitals that received a national ranking in the prior edition of Best Hospitals and for other hospitals belonging to the same health systems, *U.S. News* reviewed public records to verify AHA's data; hospitals did not receive credit in several cases where *U.S. News* determined the trauma center was associated with a different hospital's license. The second variable indicates trauma center level. The trauma center indicator is dichotomous. To receive credit of 1 point, a hospital must be a Level 1 or Level 2 trauma center.\* AHA defines Level 1 as "a regional resource trauma center, which is capable of providing total care for every aspect of injury and plays a leadership role in trauma research and education." Level 2 is "a community trauma center, which is capable of providing trauma care to all but the most severely injured patients who require highly specialized care."

#### Patient Services

Patient services encompass major conveniences for patients. Among others, they include translators, advanced or especially sophisticated care, and services considered clinically essential in a comprehensive, high-quality hospital, such as cardiac rehabilitation, or reflective of forward thinking and sensitivity to community needs, such as genetic testing or counseling. All items are taken from the AHA Annual Survey.

Brief descriptions of patient services included in the index follow. The definitions are taken from the AHA Annual Survey (and expanded as necessary).

Alzheimer's center. A facility that cares for individuals with Alzheimer's disease
and the patients' families through an integrated program of clinical services, research,
and education. As with all items in this survey, each hospital determines whether the
service is offered, based on the AHA description. This index differs from
designation as an NIA Alzheimer's center, which is a higher-order designation and is
treated as a separate structural measure in Geriatrics and in Neurology &
Neurosurgery.

\* The highest two levels of this designation are equivalent to the top two levels of the American College of Surgeons trauma center certification and can be used by hospitals in jurisdictions that do not certify Level 1 or Level 2 trauma centers.

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- Arthritis treatment center. A center specifically equipped and staffed for diagnosing and treating arthritis and other joint disorders.
- Cardiac ICU. The unit is staffed with specially trained physicians and nursing
  personnel with specialty monitoring and support/treatment equipment for patients
  who, because of heart seizure, open-heart surgery, or other life-threatening
  conditions, require intensified, comprehensive observation and care.
- Cardiac rehabilitation. A medically supervised program to help heart patients
  recover quickly and improve their overall physical and mental functioning in order to
  reduce risk of another cardiac event or to keep a current heart condition from
  worsening.
- Case management. A system of assessment, treatment planning, referral, and follow-up that ensures the provision of comprehensive and continuous services and the coordination of payment and reimbursement for care.
- **Employment support services.** Services designed to support individuals with significant disabilities to seek and maintain employment.
- **Enabling services.** A program that is designed to help the patient access healthcare services by offering any of the following: transportation services or referrals to local social services agencies.
- **Fertility clinic.** A specialized program set in an infertility center that provides counseling and education, as well as advanced reproductive techniques.
- **Genetic testing/counseling.** A service equipped with adequate laboratory facilities and directed by a qualified physician to advise parents and prospective parents on potential problems in cases of genetic defects.
- **Health research.** Organized hospital research program in any of the following areas: basic research, clinical research, community health research, or research on innovative healthcare delivery.
- **Hemodialysis.** Provision of equipment and personnel for the treatment of renal insufficiency on an inpatient or outpatient basis.
- **Hospice.** A program that provides care (including pain relief) and supportive services for the terminally ill and their families.
- **Infection isolation room.** A single-occupancy room designed to minimize the possibility of infectious transmission, typically through the use of controlled ventilation, air pressure, and filtration.

- Neurological services. Services provided by the hospital dealing with the operative
  and nonoperative management of disorders of the central, peripheral, and autonomic
  nervous systems.
- Occupational health services. Includes services designed to protect the safety of employees from hazards in the work environment.
- **Pain-management program.** A program that provides specialized care, medications, or therapies for the management of acute or chronic pain.
- Palliative care. A program that provides specially trained physicians and other clinicians to relieve acute or chronic pain or to control symptoms of illness.
- Patient-controlled analgesia. A system that allows the patient to control intravenously administered pain medicine.
- Patient education center. Written goals and objectives for the patient or family related to therapeutic regimens, medical procedures, and self-care.
- Patient representative services. Organized hospital services providing personnel through whom patients and staff can seek solutions to institutional problems affecting the delivery of high-quality care and services.
- Physical rehabilitation outpatient services. Program providing medical, healthrelated, therapy, social, or vocational services to help people with disabilities attain or retain their maximum functional capacity.
- Psychiatric services—psychiatric consultation/liaison services. Provides organized psychiatric consultation/liaison services to nonpsychiatric hospital staff or departments on psychological aspects of medical care that may be generic or specific to individual patients.
- **Psychiatry–geriatric service.** A psychiatric service that specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of geriatric medical patients.
- Social work services. Organized services that are properly directed and sufficiently staffed by qualified individuals who provide assistance and counseling to patients and their families in dealing with social, emotional, and environmental problems associated with illness or disability, often in the context of financial or discharge planning coordination.
- **Support groups.** A hospital-sponsored program that allows a group of individuals with common experiences or issues who meet periodically to share experiences, problems, and solutions in order to support each other.

- **Translators.** A service provided by the hospital to assist patients who do not speak English.
- Wound-management services. Services for patients with chronic and non-healing
  wounds that often result from diabetes, poor circulation, sitting or reclining
  improperly, and immunocompromising conditions. The goals are to progress chronic
  wounds through stages of healing, reduce and eliminate infections, increase physical
  function to minimize complications from current wounds, and prevent future
  chronic wounds. Services are provided on an inpatient or outpatient basis depending
  on the intensity of service needed.

Between 7 and 16 services are included in each specialty. Hospitals receive 1 point for each specified service provided on or off site (1) by the hospital or its subsidiaries, (2) by the hospital's health system in the local community, or (3) by another institution in the local community through formal arrangement or joint venture. *Table 7* displays patient services by specialty.

**Table 7. Patient Services, by Specialty** 

Service	Cancer	Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery	Diabetes & Endocrinology	Ear, Nose & Throat	Gastroenterology & GI Surgery	Geriatrics	Neurology & Neurosurgery	Obstetrics & Gynecology	Orthopedics	Pulmonology & Lung Surgery	Rehabilitation	Urology
Alzheimer's center						•	•					
Arthritis treatment center						•			•			
Cardiac ICU		•										
Cardiac rehabilitation		•										
Case management											•	
Employment support services											•	
Enabling services											•	
Fertility clinic								•				•
Genetic testing/counseling	•		•	•	•		•	•		•		•
Health research											•	
Hemodialysis											•	
Hospice	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
Infection isolation room	•		•	•	•		•	•		•		•
Neurological services											•	
Occupational health services											•	
Pain-management program	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Palliative care	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
Patient-controlled analgesia	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•
Patient education center											•	
Patient representative services											•	
Physical rehabilitation outpatient services											•	
Psychiatric services—psychiatric consultation/liaison services											•	
Psychiatry-geriatric service						•						
Social work services											•	
Support groups											•	
Translators	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Wound-management services	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Total Elements	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	9	7	8	16	9

<sup>•</sup> Included in the index for the specialty.

#### ICU Specialists

ICU specialists are board-certified physicians with subspecialty or fellowship training in critical-care medicine. They specialize in managing critically ill patients in hospital ICUs. Recent research indicates that better outcomes are associated with the presence of ICU specialists. <sup>14,15</sup> The rankings award 1 point to hospitals with at least one ICU specialist FTE, whether on staff or through another arrangement as long as at least one ICU specialist serves in an adult-focused ICU setting within the hospital. Previously, hospitals had to have at least one FTE on staff ICU specialist. Credit was determined from the FY2022 AHA Annual Survey.

# **External Organizations**

The following describes sources and organizations other than AHA and CMS that provided data for additional structural measures.

#### NCI-Designated Cancer Center

The NCI, an arm of NIH, is the principal federal agency tasked with conducting and sponsoring cancer research and training and promoting research and standards of care by various means, including certification as an NCI-Designated Cancer Center. Such a center is committed to advancing cancer research and, ultimately, reducing cancer incidence and increasing the effectiveness of treatment.

NCI-Designated Cancer Centers have three classification levels. The lowest is *basic cancer center*, denoting a facility that conducts a high volume of advanced federally funded laboratory research. Credit is not awarded for this designation. A *clinical cancer center*, the second level, adds clinical ("bench-to-bedside") research. *Comprehensive cancer center*, the highest level, adds prevention research, community outreach, and service activities.<sup>16</sup>

Hospitals designated as NCI clinical or comprehensive cancer centers (and their official consortium partners) as of January 19, 2024, were awarded 1 point. Hospitals designated "basic cancer centers" did not receive credit. NCI updates the list throughout the year. The current list is at <a href="https://cancercenters.cancer.gov/cancer-centers/cclist">https://cancercenters.cancer.gov/cancer-centers/cclist</a>.

# Nurse Magnet Status

The Nurse Magnet measure is a formal designation by the Magnet Recognition Program<sup>®</sup>. The Magnet Recognition Program was developed by ANCC to recognize healthcare organizations that meet certain quality indicators on specific standards of nursing excellence. ANCC updates the

list of Nurse Magnet–recognized facilities throughout the year as organizations apply for designation and re-designation status. *U.S. News* bases credit for this measure on Magnet Recognition as of December 31, 2023. *U.S. News* is not responsible for any omissions in the data made available by ANCC. The current list of magnet-recognized organizations is shown at <a href="https://www.nursingworld.org/organizational-programs/magnet/find-a-magnet-organization/">https://www.nursingworld.org/organizational-programs/magnet/find-a-magnet-organization/</a>.

Hospitals received 1 point for being recognized as a nurse magnet hospital. For hospitals that are part of a special merger\* or a multicampus hospital, the primary hospital (usually the larger of two or more general acute care hospitals) is required to have Magnet Recognition status for the combination hospital to receive 1 point.

#### NAEC-Designated Epilepsy Center

One point was awarded to hospitals designated by NAEC as Level 4 epilepsy centers as of March 15, 2024. A Level 4 epilepsy center serves as a regional or national referral facility. These centers provide more complex forms of intensive neurodiagnostic monitoring, as well as more extensive medical, neuropsychological, and psychosocial treatment. Level 4 centers also offer a complete evaluation for epilepsy; surgery, including intracranial electrodes; and a broad range of surgical procedures for epilepsy. NAEC updates its list of hospitals throughout the year. The current list is shown at <a href="http://www.naec-epilepsy.org/find.htm">http://www.naec-epilepsy.org/find.htm</a>.

# NIA-Designated Alzheimer's Center

Evaluation and certification are conducted by NIA, an arm of NIH that translates research advances into improved diagnosis and care of Alzheimer's disease and conducts research on prevention and cures. Recognition means that a hospital has received significant funding for and conducts research on Alzheimer's disease as well as providing a high level of care for Alzheimer's patients. Hospitals designated as an NIA Alzheimer's center or Exploratory center as of January 13, 2024, received 1 point. Hospitals listed as affiliated centers did not receive credit. The current list of NIA Alzheimer's centers can be accessed at <a href="https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/alzheimers-disease-research-centers">https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/alzheimers-disease-research-centers</a>.

\* In a special merger, two separate hospitals operate as one and their data are combined for analysis. Brigham and Women's Hospital and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute are an example in Cancer. Specialty or secondary hospitals that

are combined with the primary hospital are noted on the U.S. News website for that hospital.

<sup>30</sup> 

#### FACT Accreditation

This designation indicates that as of January 16, 2024, a hospital met standards set by FACT for transplanting bone marrow or other cellular tissue to treat cancer. Two points were given if accreditation was for *allogeneic transplants*, involving cells donated by another person (allowing for a greater number and more kinds of cell transplants), regardless of other accreditations. If a hospital did not have allogeneic transplant accreditation, but it did have accreditation for either *autologous transplants*, in which a patient's own cells are removed, then returned following radiation therapy, or for *immune effector cellular therapy*, it received 1 point. The current list of FACT-accredited hospitals can be accessed at <a href="https://accredited.factglobal.org">https://accredited.factglobal.org</a>.

#### CARF Accreditation

Accreditation from CARF designates a center as meeting standards of excellence in rehabilitation care. Data were obtained from CARF on January 2, 2024. The current list of CARF-accredited hospitals can be accessed at <a href="http://www.carf.org/providerSearch.aspx">http://www.carf.org/providerSearch.aspx</a>. In the Rehabilitation specialty, this accreditation is worth a total of 2.5%. Additionally, the *U.S. News* website notes which hospitals had certain specialty certifications from CARF.

#### Rehabilitation Model Systems

Designation as a Model Systems in Rehabilitation by the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR; see <a href="https://msktc.org/">https://msktc.org/</a>) indicates that a center has received federal funding to advance rehabilitation care through innovative research. Designations are available in the areas of Spinal Cord Injury (SCI), Burns (BMS), and Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems (TBIMS). Facilities received credit if they had one or more Model Systems designations awarded by NIDILRR. Data for this element were obtained from NIDILRR on February 16, 2024. The Model Systems designation is worth a total of 2.5% of the ranking. Additionally, all hospitals with the Model Systems designation received the 2.5% associated with CARF accreditation, whether or not they were accredited by CARF (for a total of 5% of their score in the Rehabilitation specialty).

#### Normalization

All structural measure values were normalized prior to weighting. Normalization transforms index values into a distribution between 0 and 1 based on the range of possible values for a given measure. Normalizations were done separately for each specialty. Equation (1) is the formula for normalization:

where

 $X_i$  = the value for measure i,  $Maximum_i$  = the highest possible value for measure i, and  $Minimum_i$  = the lowest possible value for measure i.

For example, the Advanced Technologies index for Cancer is worth a maximum of 8 points. If a given hospital received 5 out of 8 points, the normalized value for the Advanced Technologies index for Cancer would be (5-0)/(8-0) = 0.63. For all structural measures, other than Number of Patients and Nurse Staffing, the lowest *possible* value is 0, even when the lowest *observed* value is greater than 0. For Number of Patients and Nurse Staffing, the lowest possible value was made equal to the lowest observed value, and the highest possible value was made equal to the highest observed value.

# Weighting

In 2012, we convened an expert panel to determine appropriate weights for each of the measures. The evaluation was done both across specialties for consistency in weighting and within specialties to identify key measures of quality in a particular specialty. Overall, weights were determined based on the importance of each measure in defining the overall structural attributes of care within hospitals. Weights for Rehabilitation, a specialty that was not discussed by the expert panel, were assigned by the project team after considering input from diverse stakeholders. *Table 8* shows the weight for each of the measures that make up the structural component of the rankings, by specialty. These weighted scores are used in the calculation of the overall raw score in *Section II.G. Calculation of the Overall Score for the Data-Driven* Specialties and that are ultimately normalized to the overall final score of 0 to 100. For all specialties, the sum of the weights is 35%, the overall weight for the structural component of the overall score.

Table 8. Structural Elements and Percentages (%) of Total Score, by Specialty

Item	Cancer	Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery	Diabetes & Endocrinology	Ear, Nose & Throat	Gastroenterology & GI Surgery	Geriatrics	Neurology & Neurosurgery	Obstetrics & Gynecology	Orthopedics	Pulmonology & Lung Surgery	Rehabilitation	Urology
Advanced technologies	5	5.83	6.18	5.83	5.83		4.77	6.18	5.83	5.83	7.5	5.83
CARF accreditation <sup>a</sup>											2.5	
FACT accreditation	3.33											
ICU specialists NAEC-designated epilepsy center	3.33	3.89	4.12	3.89	3.89	4.12	3.18	4.12	3.89	3.89		3.89
NCI-Designated Cancer Center	3.33						3.10					
NIA-designated Alzheimer's center						6.18	3.18					
Number of patients	6.67	7.78	8.24	7.78	7.78	8.24	6.36	8.24	7.78	7.78	18	7.78
Nurse Magnet status	3.33	3.89	4.12	3.89	3.89	4.12	3.18	4.12	3.89	3.89		3.89
Nurse staffing	6.67	7.78	8.24	7.78	7.78	8.24	6.36	8.24	7.78	7.78		7.78
Patient services Rehabilitation Model	3.33	3.89	4.12	3.89	3.89	4.12	3.18	4.12	3.89	3.89	7.5	3.89
Systems											2.5	
Trauma center		1.94		1.94	1.94		1.59		1.94	1.94		1.94

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> All hospitals with the Model Systems designation received the 2.5% associated with CARF accreditation, whether or not they were accredited by CARF (for a total of 5% of their score in the Rehabilitation specialty).

Note: Percentages may not sum to 35% (38% in Rehabilitation) due to rounding.

#### C. Outcomes

The correlation between quality of care and risk-adjusted outcomes is self-evident and supported by the literature. 18–32 Outcomes, which include specialty-specific, risk-adjusted mortality rates and rates of discharge to home, are worth 45% of the overall score in most specialties. Some specialties also include a measure of complications following outpatient surgeries and other outpatient procedures. Rehabilitation includes a unique set of outcome measures, described as follows.

When comparing outcomes such as mortality between hospitals, adjusting for differences in the patients treated at each hospital is critical. These adjustments need to take into account not only the principal condition for which the patient is being treated, but also other comorbidities and characteristics that may affect outcomes. For instance, a hospital with a 35% death rate might be superior to a hospital with a 10% death rate, if most of the patients at the first hospital are of high risk (i.e., expected to die) and most of the patients at the second hospital are of fairly low risk.

To address the differences in risk, we used multilevel logistic regression models to adjust for differences in case mix between hospitals. Multilevel models are a form of regression that allocates variance between variables on two or more levels. We used the empirical Bayes estimate of the hospital intercept as an estimate of each hospital's value for a given outcome. Multilevel modeling accounts for clustering of patient observations within hospitals and allows for more precise evaluation of hospitals with lower patient volume and fewer outcomes.

We selected covariates for inclusion in risk-adjustment models based on the literature, discussions with clinicians in relevant specialties and experience. The model indicates that an unbiased estimate of the effect of treatment at a given hospital as compared with a hospital selected at random from among those eligible for ranking with a specialty, requires adjustment for age, sex, Elixhauser comorbidities, 33 socioeconomic status, and year of admission. We have controlled for severity of index condition via restriction of cases consistent with the subset of MS-DRGs used by the project, as described at the end of this section and *Appendix B*.

For the analyses, we used pooled SAF data (for mortality analyses, we also used MA data from the MedPAR dataset) from CY2020, CY2021, and CY2022, the latest available for analysis. SAF data are derived from reimbursement claims submitted by hospitals to Medicare. The SAF data files contain information on all fee-for-service Medicare patients' diagnoses, procedures, length of stay in the hospital, and discharge status. The MA data derived from the MedPAR data file contain information on MA beneficiaries' hospitalizations, including patient demographic information, diagnoses, procedures performed, length of stay, admission to death interval, source of admission, and discharge status. Only patients aged 65 or older at the time of care were included in the analyses.

The SAF data and the MA data include the CMS MS-DRG assigned to each case for payment purposes. Each record contains information on the patient's diagnosis, surgery (or other medical procedure), age, sex, and discharge destination.<sup>34</sup> MS-DRGs classify the ICD-10 diagnosis codes into more meaningful patient groups based on clinical and cost similarity.<sup>35</sup>

Because MS-DRGs are relatively homogeneous groups of diagnoses and procedures, we use MS-DRGs as the basic unit for defining cases to be included in each specialty's outcome and volume measures (see *Appendix B* for the MS-DRGs used). MS-DRGs that represent challenging or critical

procedures were preferentially included. The process used to identify MS-DRGs is outlined as follows:\*

- 1. MS-DRGs for very-low-intensity cases were excluded.
- 2. MS-DRGs that generally do not apply to a Medicare or elderly population were excluded.
- 3. Excluded and included MS-DRGs were evaluated on their embedded diagnoses.
- 4. Excluded and included categorizations were refined based on within-MS-DRG variation in diagnostic complexity.
- 5. MS-DRGs not assigned to a specific specialty were evaluated to determine whether they should be categorized more specifically.
- 6. MS-DRGs were attributed to multiple specialties if patients assigned to the MS-DRGs are commonly treated by physicians in multiple specialties, or specific diagnoses or procedures were assigned to specific specialties based on principal diagnosis or procedures.
- 7. A final evaluation for clinical consistency was performed.

#### **Outcome Methodology**

Starting with the 2019–2020 rankings, the project has used a risk-adjustment approach for the Survival and Discharge to Home outcomes that involves "random effect" (RE) models, which can be thought of as a hospital-level off-set. (Previously, the rankings used observed-to-expected ratios [OERs] instead.) An RE represents the risk difference between a hospital and all hospitals in a given specialty, discounted by the reliability of that difference. The reliability is based on the volume of cases in a hospital, which means that if a hospital has 500 cases and 0 deaths, it would have a better RE, and thus a better mortality score, than a hospital with 50 cases and 0 deaths; previously, these hospitals would have had the same OER of 0. The rationale for this is that in hospitals where there are more observations, there is higher certainty that the observed results are real and not due to statistical noise. The inclusion of information on certainty is the most important difference between the OER and the RE. A list and brief description of the covariates used in the risk-adjustment model is located in *Table 9*.

Prior to risk modeling, certain cases are excluded to enhance the homogeneity of the study population. For example, to mitigate the impact of COVID-19-pandemic-associated disruptions on outcome measures, several exclusions were applied to visits occurring on or after March 1, 2020.

<sup>\*</sup> For a more detailed review of these procedures, see the 2005 Best Hospitals Ranking Methodology Report at <a href="https://www.rti.org/impact/best-hospitals-and-best-childrens-hospitals-rankings">https://www.rti.org/impact/best-hospitals-and-best-childrens-hospitals-rankings</a>.

First, visits in which a patient had a diagnosis of COVID-19 were excluded. Second, all visits occurring in March 2020 were excluded. Third, for each hospital, visits that occurred in April through December 2020 were excluded if they occurred during a month in which the hospital's COVID-19 hospitalization rate exceeded the national average for that month or exceeded 15%, whichever was less. Any visits in which a patient had a diagnosis of COVID-19 in 2021 (and onward) are not impacted by these exclusions. Instead, they are risk adjusted in the outcomes statistical models. We did not exclude any visits with COVID-19 diagnosis when computing the volume.

Identification and exclusion of inpatient transfers. Since 2007, all patients identified as transferred into a hospital have been excluded from the hospital's outcome calculations. This was done to help avoid mortality rates that might be inflated by transfers of severely ill patients to tertiary care hospitals. Research has shown that because of their location, some tertiary care hospitals are particularly vulnerable to "dumping." This exclusion means that some patients were lost to analysis, but it is more important to ensure that each hospital's mortality numbers are not affected by transfers of very sick patients from hospitals unable to properly care for them.

In the 2024–2025 rankings, inpatient-to-inpatient transfers in fee-for-service Medicare data were identified by chronologically consecutive claims for a given beneficiary that showed they were discharged from one hospital and admitted to another hospital within 1 day. \*The "admission source" variable in Medicare claims data, which previously was also used to identify transfers, is no longer used for that purpose in fee-for-service data because of variability in how hospitals code that variable. Because longitudinal tracking of beneficiaries is not possible in MedPAR LDS data, the admission source code ("4") signifying "Transfer from hospital (Different Facility)" was used to identify transfers of MA beneficiaries.

Exclusion of emergency department (ED) transfers. Patients transferred from one hospital's ED to another hospital represent a population that is generally higher acuity. Consequently, hospitals that receive a large volume of transfers from outside EDs may appear to have worse outcomes. Starting with the 2024–2025 rankings, in order to avoid penalizing hospitals for accepting these patients, we excluded ED transfers from the outcome analysis in all specialties. Using inpatient and outpatient claims, ED transfers were identified when a patient was discharged from a hospital's ED (as indicated by revenue codes 0450–0459 [Emergency room] and 0981

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<sup>\*</sup> Visits with admit codes (D, E, 5) or preceding discharge codes (1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 21, 50, 51, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 70, 81, 83, 84, 86, 87, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 95) indicating that the patient was received from or discharged to any location other than another acute care facility were excluded from transfer status.

[Professional fees-Emergency room]) and arrived at a different hospital either as an inpatient admission or to the receiving hospital's ER before being admitted to an inpatient unit within 1 day.

Table 9. Covariates Used for Risk Adjustment of RE Models

Risk-Adjustment Variables	Description
Patient age	Patient age as a linear variable (included in risk-adjustment models for MA
at admission	patients as a categorical variable).
MS-DRG roll-up	Rolled-up MS-DRGs that include the variations with MCC, with CC, and without CC/MCC for medical and surgical treatment covered by the project (as shown in the tables in <b>Appendix B</b> ).
Sex	Male or female.
Year of hospital admission	Quality of care tends to improve over time. This means the risk of adverse outcomes is less year to year. For that reason, year of admission is included as a risk factor.
Elixhauser comorbidities	We controlled for the 38 comorbidities identified by criteria from the Elixhauser Comorbidity Software Refined for ICD-10-CM (v2023.1) as being predictive of healthcare outcomes.
Medicare status code	The reason or reasons why the patient is eligible for Medicare: age, or age plus end-stage renal failure. This is a proxy for comorbidities.
Socioeconomic	Patients with lower incomes are typically sicker when they arrive at the hospital and may face more challenges in obtaining or managing their care after they are discharged. This can affect their risk of death, readmission, and complications.  When hospitals differ by the socioeconomic status of their patients, this can create bias in comparing outcomes. Our risk models include "dual eligibility" as a measure of socioeconomic background. Patients who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid are treated as a separate risk group (not included in risk-adjustment models for MA patients due to the lack of
status	unique patient identifiers in the MedPAR LDS file).
COVID-19 diagnosis	Patients diagnosed with COVID-19 in 2021 and onward.

CC = complication or comorbidity; MCC = major complication or comorbidity.

The accuracy of risk-adjustment models is measured by two statistics, the C-statistic and the Hosmer-Lemeshow goodness-of-fit statistic. The C-statistic estimates the probability that if one subject who experienced an outcome (e.g., death) and another who did not are drawn randomly from the data, the model will assign a higher probability of death to the person who died. When interpreting the results of a C-statistic calculation, a value of .50 indicates the model has no better than random chance at predicting the outcome. A C-statistic in the .60–.69 range indicates limited discrimination, .70–.79 indicates acceptable discrimination, and above .80 indicates good discrimination.

As shown in *Tables 10* and *11*, the C-statistic for risk-adjustment models implemented using clinical data ranges from approximately .75 to .92. The new model for some of the outcome measures—Survival and Discharge to Home—was generally of similar predictive quality as models based on clinical data. The Hosmer-Lemeshow test assesses model goodness of fit within subgroups of the data and is generally not considered informative for samples over 25,000. We used a procedure designed to evaluate Hosmer-Lemeshow fit in large samples, in which multiple Hosmer-Lemeshow tests are conducted on small samples of the data. A Hosmer-Lemeshow test results in a p-value, which below 0.05 indicates a bad fit; the closer to 1 the mean p-value is across all of the

sample Hosmer-Lemeshow tests, the better fit. Overall, the results of the analyses show that the models have acceptable to good discrimination for all of the specialties.

Table 10. Predictive Accuracy of Risk-Adjustment Models for Survival Outcomes

	Standard A	nalytical Files from CMS	Medicare Advantage			
Specialty	C-Statistic	Mean (min, max) of Large-Sample Hosmer- Lemeshow Tests	C-Statistic	Mean (min, max) of Large-Sample Hosmer- Lemeshow Tests		
Cancer	0.792	0.51 (0.08,0.92)	0.781	0.54 (0.04,0.90)		
Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery	0.782	0.47 (0.07,0.85)	0.771	0.59 (0.08,0.91)		
Diabetes & Endocrinology	0.796	0.56 (0.21,0.99)	0.802	0.52 (0.10,0.91)		
Ear, Nose & Throat	0.858	0.46 (0.04,0.98)	0.840	0.51 (0.14,0.85)		
Gastroenterology & GI Surgery	0.807	0.40 (0.00,0.83)	0.807	0.44 (0.05,0.96)		
Geriatrics	0.788	0.22 (0.00,0.81)	0.794	0.50 (0.07,0.89)		
Neurology & Neurosurgery	0.800	0.43 (0.15,0.96)	0.794	0.48 (0.04,0.89)		
Obstetrics & Gynecology	0.915	0.65 (0.31,0.99)	0.906	0.52 (0.04,0.87)		
Orthopedics	0.857	0.58 (0.03,0.92)	0.840	0.55 (0.09,0.86)		
Pulmonology & Lung Surgery	0.772	0.36 (0.00,0.74)	0.778	0.40 (0.06,0.96)		
Urology	0.859	0.62 (0.10,0.92)	0.859	0.53 (0.11,0.95)		

Table 11. Predictive Accuracy of Risk-Adjustment Models for Discharge to Home Outcomes

	Standard Analytical Files from CMS				
Specialty	C-Statistic	Mean (min, max) of Large-Sample Hosmer-Lemeshow Tests			
Cancer	0.803	0.47 (0.04,0.83)			
Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery	0.766	0.72 (0.04,1.00)			
Diabetes & Endocrinology	0.750	0.33 (0.04,0.73)			
Ear, Nose & Throat	0.824	0.35 (0.02,0.93)			
Gastroenterology & GI Surgery	0.769	0.43 (0.05,0.99)			
Geriatrics	0.778	0.19 (0.02,0.72)			
Neurology & Neurosurgery	0.792	0.29 (0.01,0.69)			
Obstetrics & Gynecology	0.852	0.32 (0.01,0.75)			
Orthopedics	0.876	0.41 (0.01,0.96)			
Pulmonology & Lung Surgery	0.766	0.20 (0.00,0.53)			
Urology	0.827	0.23 (0.00,0.66)			

Additional analyses were conducted to evaluate the validity of the Best Hospitals rankings, as well as the component measures that are used to produce the rankings. In the Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery specialty, we evaluated ranking differences between hospitals with heart transplant programs against those without. We performed similar analyses in the Cancer specialty (for bone marrow transplant centers) and Gastroenterology & GI Surgery (liver transplant). We also looked at how hospitals with specialized AHA service codes performed on outcomes in related specialties (e.g., service code 41-cancer for the Cancer specialty, service code 47-orthopedic for the Orthopedics specialty, service codes 13 and 42-surgical and heart for the Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery specialty). Last, we performed similar analyses to understand whether hospitals operating trauma centers attained higher ranks in each specialty. In each case, the results of the risk-adjusted mortality and discharge to home scores were consistent with expectations.

#### **Survival Score**

The rankings present mortality results through the use of a survival score. Survival scores are used to convey performance on outcome measures so that users of the rankings can quickly see how hospitals perform relative to each other. As described as follows, the survival (and discharge) scores represent a range of performance rather than a precise point estimate of performance based on the RE. This is used for display purposes in the rankings only.

We published survival scores as integer values ranging from 1 to 5. See an example of a survival score of 3, indicating performance not statistically different from expected, in *Figure 2*.

Figure 2. Display of Survival Outcome on the U.S. News Website

# Survival Relative survival 30 days after undergoing knee replacement surgery, compared to other hospitals treating similar patients.

Beginning with the 2024–2025 rankings, the survival score shifted to a combined score calculated from both SAF and MA data. The combined survival score is a weighted average of the hospital's risk-adjusted survival scores in traditional Medicare and in MA beneficiaries, with more or less emphasis on the hospital's MA outcomes depending on its proportion of MA claims found in the MedPAR data. The formula for the combined survival score is as follows:

Survival outcome score =  $O_{FFS} \times W_{FFS} + O_{MA} \times W_{MA}$ ,

where  $O_{FFS}$  and  $O_{MA}$  refer to the hospital's survival outcome score in traditional Medicare and in MA, respectively;  $W_{FFS}$  and  $W_{MA}$  refer to the hospital's proportion of traditional Medicare and MA claims found in the MedPAR data, and the sum of  $W_{FFS}$  and  $W_{MA}$  is equal to 1. As a result of this calculation, a hospital's performance in traditional Medicare patients had more influence on its final survival score if it treated more traditional Medicare patients, whereas performance in MA patients had progressively greater impact for a hospital with a higher proportion of MA patients. Because the 2024–2025 rankings were the first to use MA data in outcome measures,  $W_{MA}$  was capped at 0.5; therefore,  $W_{FFS}$  was at least 0.5 for each hospital. Consequently, hospitals that treated more MA patients than traditional Medicare patients received values of 0.5 for both  $W_{FFS}$  and  $W_{MA}$ .

Our approach to determining each hospital's survival score falls under the general rubric of statistical significance testing. The cutoffs are different for each hospital. The survival score is reflective of a hospital's combined estimated risk-adjusted value (RE) on the survival outcome compared with other hospitals, as well as its traditional Medicare claims volume and MA claims volume, and the incidence of that outcome. We compare each hospital's combined risk-adjusted outcome value with a normal distribution, taking into account how a hospital compares with other hospitals as well as uncertainty in the weighted average<sup>37</sup>. For rare outcomes, such as death in Orthopedics, relatively few hospitals will have a rate that would designate it as above or below average. It is important to keep in mind that the bands displayed provide a heuristic for the RE, which is the underlying continuous metric that is used in calculating the rankings. Consequently, two hospitals with the same displayed survival score—but different underlying REs—may receive different rankings even if they have identical data on all other measures.

The display scores place hospitals into one of five scores reflecting their performance and our level of certainty about it. This takes into account the adjusted RE values, along with measures of variability in the population of eligible hospitals to assign to one of five groups based on how much they deviate from the mean. The center of the distribution, a score of 3, is defined as being less than 75% confidence in difference from the mean. A score of 4 represents hospitals that are better than average with 75% confidence, and a score of 5 represents hospitals that are better than average with 90% confidence. Scores of 1 and 2 are the inverse of 5 and 4, respectively. Given that ranked hospitals are a subset of all hospitals that generally perform better on patient outcomes, there will be more ranked hospitals with scores of 4 and 5.

# **Discharge to Home Score**

The discharge to home measure assesses how well a hospital does at managing to discharge patients to home rather than sending them on to another acute or post-acute care setting following hospitalization. It is an outcome measure, not a measure of process. In other words, discharging

patients with certain functional impairments to institutional post-acute care is appropriate from a process perspective. But in general, patients who are well enough to be discharged home have achieved better functional outcomes than patients who require discharge to an institutional care setting.

The denominator for this measure includes only patients who have been discharged following a qualifying inpatient admission; visits with inbound transfer status are excluded from the measure. The discharge status codes used in this measure come from the claims evaluated in the CMS SAF data. Hospitalizations with discharge status codes of 07 (left against medical advice or discontinued care), 20 (expired, did not recover—Christian Science), 21 (discharged to court/law enforcement), 30 (still a patient), 40 (expired at home, hospice claim), 41 (expired in facility, hospice claim), 42 (expired place unknown, hospice claim), 50 (home hospice), 62 (discharged/transferred to an IRF including distinct parts units of a hospital), or 87 (discharged to court/law enforcement with planned readmission) are excluded from the numerator and denominator, as are hospitalizations with a missing or invalid discharge status code and those with admission source code 8 (admitted upon direction of a court or law enforcement) or 5 (admitted from a nursing facility). Similarly, visits that were determined to have been admissions from an SNF, because in Medicare SNF claims data, the patient was observed in an SNF immediately prior to being admitted to a hospital, were excluded.

Discharge codes 01 (home/self-care), 06 (home with care of organized home health service organization), 81 (home/self-care with planned readmission), and 86 (home with care of organized home health service organization with planned readmission) are included as a successful discharge to home. Discharge to a location other than home is indicated by one of the following patient discharge status codes: 02, 03, 04, 05, 09, 43, 51, 61, 63, 64, 65, 66, 69, 70, 82, 83, 84, 85, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, or 95.

Similar to the survival score, the discharge to home score was determined by statistical significance testing and is expressed as an integer from 1 to 5.

# **Prevention of Outpatient Complications**

This measure evaluates the ability of hospitals to prevent complications related to procedures conducted on an outpatient basis. In some surgical specialties, outpatient procedures have long been routine. In others, surgeries that historically involved admitting patients to an inpatient setting are now increasingly performed on an outpatient basis. To reflect the growing role of outpatient procedural care, measures of outpatient procedural outcomes are included in Ear, Nose & Throat; Orthopedics; and Urology. (Analogous measures may be added to other specialties in future editions of the rankings.)

To identify outpatient procedures in these three specialties, potentially preventable complication rates for outpatient procedures were produced using the 3M AM-PPC Methodology. We applied the 3M AM-PCC grouper software to Medicare hospital fee-for-service outpatient claims and inpatient claims from 2020 to 2022. The AM-PPC grouper software assigns qualifying outpatient visits to one of several defined procedure groups or PSGs, which are roughly analogous to MS-DRGs but apply to outpatient procedures.

The 3M AM-PPC Methodology also identifies potentially preventable complications, which are harmful evens or negative outcomes (e.g., infections, mechanical complications, bleeding/clotting, pneumonia/pulmonary) that develop and are discovered during emergency room visits or inpatient stays following an elective outpatient procedure. Although AM-PPCs can also identify potentially preventable complications that present during postprocedural outpatient visits, the *U.S. News* measures did not include these events because of limitations in the completeness of the available Medicare data.

The measure evaluates the ability of hospitals to successfully perform procedures without complications using an observed-to-expected ratio of potentially preventable complications. Each hospital's observed complication count is calculated as the total number of outpatient procedures with a clinically relevant complication of care occurring within 30 days across all PSGs assigned to the specialty. *Table 12* provides the list of PSGs assigned to the Ear, Nose & Throat; Orthopedics; and Urology specialties.

**Table 12. List of PSGs for Prevention of Outpatient Complications** 

Ear, Nose & Throat			Orthopedics	Urology				
PSG PSG Description		PSG PSG Description			PSG PSG Description			
130	Facial and ear, nose,	130	r 3d Description	130	Male genital system			
34	and throat procedures	1	Shoulder and elbow arthroscopy	43	procedures			
	Tympanoplasty and				Extracorporeal shock wave			
116	other ear procedures	2	Hand and wrist arthroscopy	90	lithotripsy			
134	Thyroid and parathyroid procedures	3	Knee arthroscopy	91	Lower genitourinary procedures			
	Tonsil and adenoid		, то от		Upper genitourinary			
135	procedures	4	Hip arthroscopy	93	procedures			
136	Cleft lip and palate repair procedures	5	Ankle arthroscopy	94	Upper genitourinary stent and guidewire procedures			
	n opan processino		rama di	-	Upper genitourinary catheter			
		6	Foot arthroscopy	95	(percutaneous) procedures			
		7	Shoulder and elbow arthroplasty	101	Prostate biopsy procedures			
			Shoulder and elbow arthroplasty					
		9	revision	183	Prostatectomy			
		10	Hand and wrist arthroplasty	184	Transurethral resection of prostate (TURP)			
			Hip arthroplasty		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			
		12	Hip arthroplasty revision					
			Knee arthroplasty					
			Knee arthroplasty revision					
		15	Foot and ankle arthroplasty					
		16	Cervical spine fusion					
		17	Cervical spine procedures					
		18	Scalenus procedures					
		19	Lumbar and sacral spine fusion					
		20	Lumbar and sacral spine procedures					
		21	Thoracic spine fusion					
		22	Thoracic spine procedures					
		23	Open hand and wrist procedures					
		24	Open shoulder procedures					
		25	Open elbow procedures					
		26	Foot (mid/fore) procedures					
			Foot (hind/ankle) and lower leg					
		27	procedures Open knee fracture repair and					
		28	ligament procedures					
			Other knee and soft tissue					
		29	procedures					
		30	Open hip fracture repair and other bone procedures					
		-	Hip extra-articular and soft tissue					
		31	procedures					
		22	Open hip intra-articular					
		32	procedures	]				

To calculate the expected complication count for each hospital, each at-risk encounter is first assigned a complication risk rate, which is calculated for each age group (65–74, 75–84, and 85 or older) in each PSG assigned to the specialty. These complication risk rates are calculated by dividing the nationwide sum of all procedures with complications by the nationwide sum of all at-risk procedures within each age category and PSG. Then, all complication risk rates for a given hospital in a given specialty are summed to generate the hospital-level expected complication counts for that specialty. Last, the observed complication count was divided by the expected complication count to generate a hospital-level, specialty-specific OER.

Because OERs have a skewed distribution with a small number of extremely high values, OER values were winsorized at the 99th percentile of the OERs in each specialty before being normalized, weighted, and combined with the other outcome measures in the model. Raw PPC OERs range from 0 to a theoretical maximum of infinity, with lower values indicating better than expected performance, and higher values indicating worse-than-expected performance on the measure. However, for public display, we flip the direction of AM-PPC OER values to match the orientation of other quality measures that we publish, in which higher values indicate better performance. We publish categorical values ranging from 1 to 5 based on the quintiles of the flipped OER values on each hospital's scorecard. These bands are meant to help users of rankings quickly compare how hospitals perform relative to each other.

# **Normalization and Weighting**

As with structural measures, the outcome measures were normalized before being weighted and combined. The normalization formula can be found in *Section II.B.* Structure. Once normalized, the normalized survival and discharge to home values (and outpatient potentially preventable complications values) were weighted. These weighted scores are used in the calculation of the overall raw score in *Section II.G. Calculation of the Overall Score for the Data-Driven* Specialties and are ultimately normalized to the overall final score of 0 to 100. For all specialties, the sum of the weights is 45%, the overall weight for the outcomes component of the overall score. In Ear, Nose & Throat; Orthopedics; and Urology, survival received a weight of 32%; discharge to home, 8%; and outpatient complications, 5%. In all other data-driven specialties except for Rehabilitation, survival received a weight of 36% and discharge to home a weight of 9%.

#### **Outcomes for Rehabilitation**

Death is not an informative outcome measure in rehabilitation care because the focus of care is patient functional improvement, community discharge, and avoidance of future acute care where

possible. This domain of the rankings is defined by outcomes available from IRF Care Compare, including the following:

- Preventing potentially avoidable 30-day hospital readmissions after IRF discharge
- Preventing potentially avoidable hospital readmissions during rehabilitation care
- Successful discharge to home and community

Data from the two readmission measures have been converted from a rate of readmissions to a rate of successful avoidance of readmissions, whereas data from the discharge measure were taken as provided in IRF Care Compare. All three outcome measures are treated as continuous variables in order to maximize use of the information contained in the variable and to minimize the risk of measurement error due to categorization. Each of these measures is worth 10%, for a total of 30% of the final ranking.

# D. Process/Expert Opinion

The process/expert opinion component was worth 15% of the overall score in all specialties except for Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery; Neurology & Neurosurgery; Obstetrics & Gynecology; and Pulmonology & Lung Surgery, in which it was worth 12%; and Rehabilitation, in which it was worth 35%, of which 30% was based on expert opinion and 2% on patient safety.

The process/expert opinion dimension of the Donabedian paradigm reflects care decisions in the hospital setting, such as making choices about admission, diagnostic tests, course of treatment, choice of medication, and length of stay. It is extremely difficult to obtain national measurements of process. We contend that an appropriately qualified physician who identifies a hospital as among the "best" is, in essence, endorsing the process choices made at that hospital, and we regard the nomination of hospitals by board-certified specialists as a reasonable proxy measure.

To collect these nominations, a survey of board-certified physicians across the country is conducted each year. The rankings used nominations from the most recent 3 years of physician surveys (2022, 2023, and 2024). Scores were calculated separately in each year and averaged such that each year's scores are given equal weighting in the final expert opinion score as shown in *Table 13*.

Table 13. 2022, 2023, and 2024 Expert Opinion Weights, by Survey Year

Sample Source	Expert Opinion Weight
2022 Physician Survey	33.3%
2023 Physician Survey	33.3%
2024 Physician Survey	33.3%

The following sections describe the 2024 survey. The approaches used for the 2022 and 2023 surveys are described in the corresponding methodology reports for those years, available at <a href="https://www.rti.org/impact/best-hospitals-and-best-childrens-hospitals-rankings">https://www.rti.org/impact/best-hospitals-and-best-childrens-hospitals-rankings</a>.

Expert opinion scores were calculated in the same manner for both data-driven and expert opinion—based specialties. The following description therefore applies to both.

#### 2024 Survey Approach

#### Sample Selection

The sample for the 2024 physician survey was selected from a database of all practicing U.S. physicians compiled by Doximity. Doximity's comprehensive Physician Database includes every practicing U.S. physician, identified by National Provider Identifier (NPI) number. Sources include the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services NPI Registry, state medical boards, and specialty boards (e.g., the American Board of Medical Specialties, the American Board of Surgery, and AOA). Doximity's proprietary database is augmented by more than 750,000 registered and verified physician members who review and update their profiles to provide another set of primary data. U.S. News & World Report holds an equity interest in Doximity.

Table 14 provides the population counts of specialists in the Doximity database.

#### Data Collection Procedures

The Doximity member survey was sent to 306,712 physicians across the 15 specialties and was conducted from February to March 2024. Physicians received an initial email invitation with a link to the survey. The survey asked physicians to supply the names of up to five hospitals in their specialty that provide the best care to patients with serious conditions, without considering location or expense. Nonresponding physicians received one follow-up email reminder with a link to the survey. In addition, eligible Doximity members (i.e., those who were board certified in a relevant specialty) received alerts upon logging in to Doximity.com or using the Doximity app inviting them to participate.

Table 14. Population Counts, by Best Hospitals Specialty

Specialty	Subspecialties Included (based on board certification)	Doximity Members
	Hematology, gynecologic oncology, interventional radiology, <sup>a</sup>	
	radiation oncology (ABMS and AOA)	
	Medical oncology, complex general surgical oncology, surgical	
	oncology, musculoskeletal oncology, therapeutic radiology (ABMS)	
Cancer	Oncology, radiation therapy (AOA)	25,562
	Clinical cardiac electrophysiology, thoracic, cardiac, or	,
	cardiothoracic surgery <sup>b</sup> ; interventional cardiology; vascular	
	surgery; advanced heart failure and transplant; interventional	
	radiology <sup>a</sup> (ABMS and AOA)	
	Cardiovascular diseases, adult congenital heart disease	
Cardiology, Heart &		27.405
Vascular Surgery	Vascular and interventional radiology <sup>a</sup> (AOA)	37,405
Diabetes &	Endowingloss, dishetes, metabolism (ARMC and ACA)	7 072
Endocrinology	Endocrinology, diabetes, metabolism (ABMS and AOA)	7,872
Ear, Nose & Throat	Otolaryngology, plastic surgery (facial, head, neck) (ABMS and AOA)	11,098
Gastroenterology &	Gastroenterology (ABMS and AOA)	
GI Surgery <sup>c</sup>	Colon and rectal surgery, transplant hepatology (ABMS)	28,516
Geriatrics	Geriatric medicine (ABMS and AOA)	10,053
Neurology &	Neurology, neurological surgery, neuroradiology,	
Neurosurgery	interventional radiology <sup>a</sup> (ABMS and AOA)	26,528
Obstetrics &		
Gynecology	Obstetrics and gynecology (ABMS and AOA)	38,990
Ophthalmology	Ophthalmology (ABMS and AOA)	17,567
	Orthopedic surgery, sports medicine, <sup>d</sup> interventional radiology <sup>a</sup>	
	(ABMS and AOA)	
Orthopedics	Hand surgery (AOA)	26,414
Develoiston	Psychiatry (ABMS and AOA)	22 505
Psychiatry	Geriatric psychiatry (AOA)	32,585
Pulmonology &	Pulmonary dispasos, thoracic surgery® (ARMS and ACA)	17 212
Lung Surgery	Pulmonary diseases, thoracic surgery <sup>e</sup> (ABMS and AOA)  Physical medicine and rehabilitation, sports medicine <sup>d</sup> (ABMS	17,313
Rehabilitation	and AOA)	10,364
Rheumatology	Rheumatology (ABMS and AOA)	6,195
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Interventional radiology <sup>a</sup> (ABMS and AOA)	,
	Urology (ABMS)	
Urology	Urological surgery (AOA)	10,250

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm a}$  Interventional radiologists identified by the Society of Interventional Radiology as having >50% of clinical volume in this specialty area.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Except thoracic surgeons identified by *U.S. News* as subspecializing in surgical care of thoracic cancer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> General surgeons certified by the American Board of Surgery (ABMS) or Board of Surgery (AOA) identified by *U.S. News* as subspecializing in surgical care of gastrointestinal cancer were also eligible.

d Physicians board certified as sports medicine from the American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (ABMS or AOA) were eligible in Rehabilitation. All other sports medicine physicians were eligible in Orthopedics.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup> Thoracic surgeons identified by *U.S. News* as subspecializing in surgical care of thoracic cancer.

# Response Rates

The overall response rate for the 2022, 2023, and 2024 surveys was 10.7% using American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) standard response rate 5.\*

Of the 306,712 Doximity members identified as eligible in 1 of the 15 specialties, 29,274 completed the web survey. The final response rate was 9.5% using AAPOR standard response rate 5. *Table 15* shows response rates by region and specialty.

Table 15. Member Survey Response Rates, by Region and Specialty: 2024

Specialty	Midwest (%)	Northeast (%)	South (%)	West (%)	Total (%)
Cancer	12.9	18.1	9.0	10.2	12.4
Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery	11.5	15.4	8.4	7.7	10.7
Diabetes & Endocrinology	11.1	15.8	7.6	8.8	10.8
Ear, Nose & Throat	15.2	20.3	11.5	13.0	14.3
Gastroenterology & GI Surgery	8.4	13.4	5.2	6.6	8.0
Geriatrics	4.6	10.3	4.0	6.6	6.4
Neurology & Neurosurgery	13.5	19.2	9.6	10.5	12.9
Obstetrics & Gynecology	4.9	11.3	3.7	4.2	5.7
Ophthalmology	14.1	12.8	9.1	12.5	11.7
Orthopedics	7.2	16.2	6.2	5.8	8.3
Psychiatry	4.1	10.7	3.1	3.0	5.5
Pulmonology & Lung Surgery	10.6	14.3	6.3	7.6	9.5
Rehabilitation	14.9	21.7	12.3	10.2	14.7
Rheumatology	10.0	16.3	6.1	7.7	9.9
Urology	13.9	21.0	8.2	10.2	12.5
Overall response rate	9.8	14.9	6.9	7.5	9.5

Note: Response rates are rounded.

# Survey Response Weighting

The weighting approach for the 2024 survey is described as follows. The approaches used for previous surveys are provided in the corresponding methodology reports for those years, which are available at <a href="https://www.rti.org/impact/best-hospitals-and-best-childrens-hospitals-rankings">https://www.rti.org/impact/best-hospitals-and-best-childrens-hospitals-rankings</a>.

<sup>\*</sup> Definitions are available online at <a href="https://aapor.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Standards-Definitions-10th-edition.pdf">https://aapor.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Standards-Definitions-10th-edition.pdf</a>.

For the 2024 Doximity member survey, we used poststratification weights for age by gender (55 or older male, younger than 55 male, and female\*), as well as census region. Weights were constructed and applied to each physician's survey response to make nominations representative of all Doximity members nationally. Because all eligible Doximity members were surveyed, weights were used to adjust for differences in nonresponse only by region and demographics. Additionally, scores were adjusted based on a physician's current affiliation. Data from multiple sources were used to determine whether a physician is currently affiliated with each hospital they nominated. Then, certain adjustments were performed that resulted in nominations from unaffiliated physicians being weighted higher than those from physicians who have a current relationship with the hospital they nominated. The effect of these adjustments is to give higher weight to the opinions of unaffiliated physicians than to those of affiliated physicians, particularly in cases where a hospital received a relatively large proportion of its nominations from affiliated physicians. To ensure the integrity of the physician survey and weighting procedures for the expert opinion score, no additional methodological detail about this new adjustment will be made public.

#### **Transformation**

The rankings display weighted 3-year expert opinion values. Before incorporating the values into the scoring for the 12 data-driven specialties, however, the values were first capped at 25% (i.e., values exceeding 25% were set to 25%), then log transformation was implemented to adjust for the skewed distribution. These transformations were not applied in the three expert opinion-based specialties.

By its nature, a survey that solicits recommendations for "bests" will generate data that do not follow a normal distribution. Relatively few hospitals will receive even one "best" recommendation. Of those that do, even fewer will receive a significant number. The distribution of responses will inevitably be highly skewed. Because outcome and structural data are not similarly skewed, expert opinion would have a disproportionate impact if the extreme skewness was not addressed.

Log transformation in the data-driven rankings reshapes the distribution to match expert opinion data more closely to those of the other components. Transformation is applied to the weighted expert opinion data using the formula  $log(R_X + 10) - 1$ , where  $R_X$  is the weighted expert opinion score for hospital X. Adding a constant of 10 moderates the effect of the transformation.

<sup>\*</sup> Age categories were collapsed for females because there were too few female physicians older than 55 in the sample.

The transformed data are then normalized. *Figure 3* demonstrates the impact of the transformation. Transformed expert opinion scores are higher than untransformed scores, but the impact is greater on low scores than on high scores, as illustrated by these examples:

- An untransformed score of 1% has a transformed value of 1.9.
- An untransformed score of 12.5% has a transformed value of 16.2.
- An untransformed score of 20% has a transformed value of 21.9.

Skewness is reduced, and the overall effect of the expert opinion score on hospitals' final standing in the rankings is diminished.

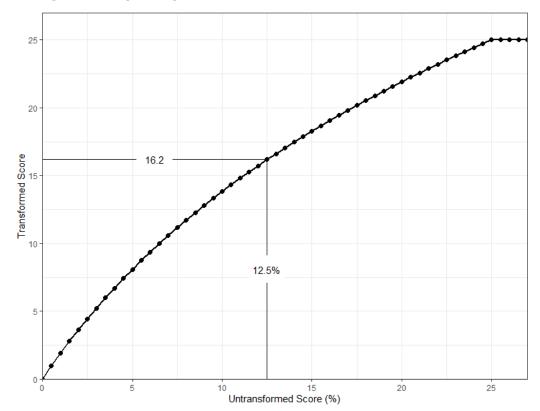


Figure 3. Expert Opinion Data Before and After Transformation

#### **Normalization and Weighting**

As with structural and outcome measures, expert opinion data were normalized before being combined with other metrics. In Diabetes & Endocrinology, expert opinion scores were normalized into a distribution from 0 to 1, with the lowest observed score being normalized to 0 and the highest

observed score being normalized to 1. In other specialties, normalization transformed index values into a distribution between 0 and 1 based on a measure's range of *possible* (as opposed to observed) values between 0% and the previously mentioned cap at 25%. A hospital's normalized expert opinion score, after log transformation, was given a component weight of 12 in Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery; Neurology & Neurosurgery; Obstetrics & Gynecology; and Pulmonology & Lung Surgery, 30 in Rehabilitation, and 15 in all other data-driven specialties. This weighted score is used in the calculation of the overall raw score in *Section II.G. Calculation of the Overall Score for the Data-Driven* Specialties and is ultimately normalized to the overall final score of 0 to 100.

# Patient Safety (Rehabilitation)

A patient safety measure is drawn from IRF Care Compare and focuses on flu vaccination rates of healthcare personnel, an important risk factor for patient safety within a healthcare setting. Hospitals with vaccination rates of 90% or greater received full credit for this measure. Below 90%, vaccination rate was scored as a continuous variable in order to maximize use of the information contained in the data and to minimize the risk of measurement error due to categorization. This measure is worth 2% of the final ranking.

# **E.** Patient Experience Score

The rankings include a patient experience score based on data from the HCAHPS Survey.\* For this measure, a hospital's linear mean overall score from HCAHPS (variable name H\_HSP\_RATING\_LINEAR\_SCORE) was used to calculate the patient experience score. The data file from HCAHPS used for the rankings is from April 1, 2022 (measure start date), through March 31, 2023 (measure end date). For the 11 Cancer specialty hospitals exempt from the CMS IRF PPS, analogous data from the PPS-exempt Cancer Hospital (PCH) HCAHPS dataset were used, if available. If a hospital had information from both sources, we used the PPS-exempt data for the Cancer specialty only. Otherwise, we used the information provided in either the standard or PCH HCAHPS for all specialties. HCAHPS scores in both datasets could range from 0 to 100.

In Orthopedics, an adjustment was applied to account for the fact that HCAHPS scores tend to be higher at specialty hospitals than at general acute care hospitals. Based on our own research and feedback from the medical community, we believe this is due to different characteristics in the patient population and not wholly the result of different outcomes. The group mean adjustment we are introducing brings the mean HCAHPS scores at specialty hospitals closer

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<sup>\*</sup> https://www.medicare.gov/hospitalcompare/Data/Overview.html

to those at general hospitals to ensure that scores are comparable across hospital service categories. Our adjustment formula is as follows:

$$y_q = max\left(0, x_q - \left(\frac{1-x_q}{1-\overline{x_q}}\right) * \left(\overline{x_q} - \overline{x_p}\right)\right),$$

where  $y_q$  and  $x_q$  refer to a specialty hospital's adjusted and unadjusted HCAHPS scores, respectively;  $x_q$  is the mean score at all specialty hospitals; and  $x_p$  is the mean score at all general hospitals. As a result of this adjustment, a specialty hospital with a perfect unadjusted score will receive a perfect adjusted score, whereas a specialty hospital with an unadjusted score equal to the mean score among specialty hospitals will receive an adjusted score equal to the mean score among general hospitals.

For hospitals with multiple Medicare Provider Numbers (MPNs) in the standard HCAHPS data, we average their HCAHPS scores for inclusion in the rankings. If a hospital is missing entirely from the HCAHPS data, we rank the hospital in each specialty without regard to HCAHPS. This is done by first calculating the overall score in each specialty for all eligible hospitals minus the HCAHPS measure. Then, the overall score is computed for all hospitals with HCAHPS values (and including the HCAHPS measure). Finally, the overall score for hospitals missing HCAHPS is derived based on their overall score value from the first calculation (the score without HCAHPS). This ensures that their overall score in the version including HCAHPS aligns with their score in the version not including HCAHPS.

Note that although we use a weighted version of the HCAHPS scores in the overall rankings for each of the 12 data-driven specialties (see *Section II.G. Calculation of the Overall Score for the Data-Driven* Specialties), hospital profiles on <u>usnews.com</u> show the CMS star ratings as a score ranging from 1 to 5. The star ratings are easier for consumers to make comparisons between hospitals and are more easily understood than the HCAHPS score. Note that in cases where multiple scores are available and have been averaged, we display the star value associated with the hospital's main MPN.

Note that patient experience data for rehabilitation facilities is not widely available, and the HCAHPS score is currently not incorporated into the Rehabilitation rankings. We hope to be able to use a rehabilitation-specific CAHPS score or patient-reported outcomes in the future.

#### **Normalization and Weighting**

The patient experience scores are normalized before being combined with other metrics for the final ranking. The normalization formula is based on the theoretical minimum and maximum values of 0 and 100. This effectively results in the observed score being converted into a decimal between 0 and 1. A hospital's normalized patient experience score is then given a weight of 5 in all other data-driven specialties. This weighted score is used in the calculation of the overall raw score in *Section II.G. Calculation of the Overall Score for the Data-Driven* Specialties and is ultimately normalized to the overall final score of 0 to 100.

# F. Public Transparency

Specialty-specific indicators of public transparency have been added to the rankings over time, as various clinical registries (or *U.S. News* itself) have commenced voluntary public reporting of relevant specialty-specific performance measures. Public transparency indicators are now part of the rankings in Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery (added in 2016); Neurology & Neurosurgery (2020); Obstetrics & Gynecology (2022); and Pulmonology & Lung Surgery (2023).

For many years, clinicians in various medical specialties have collaborated with their counterparts at other hospitals to create clinical registries to foster quality improvement. More recently, public transparency has been identified as an important additional application for registry-based quality measurement. STS initiated voluntary public reporting for Adult Cardiac Surgery Database (ACSD)-participating hospitals in 2010. In 2015, ACC began a similar program for 2 of the 10 registries that comprise the National Cardiovascular Disease Registry (NCDR), the CathPCI Registry, and the ICD Registry; it has since added public reporting from its Chest Pain - MI Registry. In 2019, the American Heart Association GWTG\* quality improvement programs started voluntary public reporting.

Transparency via clinical registries and other public transparency programs can facilitate informed decision making by patients, which in turn may boost patients' engagement in their healthcare. Transparency also creates opportunities for researchers to externally validate or critically evaluate the results of hospital rankings such as Best Hospitals. Moreover, it demonstrates a public commitment on the part of the participating hospitals to the process of pursuing quality improvement.

<sup>\*</sup> https://www.heart.org/en/professional/quality-improvement/get-with-the-guidelines/get-with-the-guidelines-stroke/get-with-the-guidelines-stroke-overview

# Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery

This measure rewards hospitals for voluntarily reporting cardiac-care performance data to the public through at least one of three important clinical registries: NCDR, maintained by ACC; ACSD, maintained by STS; and GWTG, maintained by the American Heart Association.

Hospitals received a score of 0 to 3 for participating in public reporting with ACC or GWTG and STS regardless of the specific ratings or performance scores each registry reported. For 2024–2025, a hospital got full credit for publicly reporting (a score of 3) if it reported data in the ACC or GWTG registries and reported data in the STS registry. A hospital that reported data in STS but did not report in ACC or GWTG received 2 points; hospitals that reported in ACC or GWTG but not STS also received 2 points. Hospitals received zero points if they did not publicly report in any of these three registries. Only publicly reporting in these three registries earned hospitals a score on the measure. Hospitals that submitted data to these registries but did not allow the information to be made public did not receive credit. No normalization or weighting was done to this measure. The final public transparency score is used in the calculation of the overall raw score in *Section II.G. Calculation of the Overall Score for the Data-Driven* Specialties.

# Details of Participation Requirements (ACC)

To receive credit for ACC public reporting, hospitals must have participated in either the ICD Registry, the CathPCI Registry, or the Chest Pain - MI Registry and voluntarily agreed to allow data from these registries to be posted on the ACC registry website, <a href="www.CardioSmart.org">www.CardioSmart.org</a>. To receive credit, the hospital had to have a public reporting status of "Participating with ACC" for at least one of those registries as of December 29, 2023.

# Details of Participation Requirements (STS)

To receive credit for STS public reporting, STS ACSD participants had to have their data publicly reported on the STS Public Reporting website (<a href="https://publicreporting.sts.org/search/acsd">https://publicreporting.sts.org/search/acsd</a>) as of July 17, 2023. STS Public Reporting currently includes outcomes for the following surgeries:

- Coronary artery bypass graft (isolated CABG)
- Aortic valve replacement (isolated AVR)
- AVR plus CABG surgeries (AVR+CABG)

#### Details of Participation Requirements (American Heart Association)

To receive credit for American Heart Association public reporting, hospitals must have participated and agreed to publicly report their data in at least one of the following GWTG registries:

- GWTG-AFib
- GWTG-Coronary Artery Disease
- GWTG-Heart Failure
- GWTG-Resuscitation

A hospital's data must have been displayed on the GWTG public reporting website (<a href="https://qualitynearme.heart.org/GWTGPublicReporting">https://qualitynearme.heart.org/GWTGPublicReporting</a>) as of August 31, 2023, to be awarded credit for these registries.

# **Obstetrics & Gynecology**

The transparency measure rewards hospitals for voluntarily reporting maternity care volume, outcomes, and structural program data on the annual *U.S. News* Maternity Services Survey. Hospitals received a score worth 3% of their total ranking for this metric if they completed the *U.S. News* Maternity Services Survey during the prior calendar year. No normalization or weighting was done to this measure.

# **Neurology & Neurosurgery**

The transparency measure rewards hospitals for voluntarily reporting stroke care to the public through the GWTG-Stroke quality improvement program from the American Heart Association. To receive credit, hospitals had to submit an opt-in form to the GWTG-Stroke registry by August 31, 2023. Hospitals received a score of 3 points for participating in public reporting, whereas hospitals that did not choose to be transparent through GWTG-Stroke received no credit. No normalization or weighting was done to this measure.

# **Pulmonology & Lung Surgery**

The transparency measure rewards hospitals for voluntarily reporting lobectomy data via the STS GTSD quality improvement program. To receive credit, hospitals had to submit an opt-in form to the registry by December 31, 2023. Hospitals received a score of 3 points for participating in

public reporting, whereas hospitals that did not choose to be transparent through STS GTSD received no credit. No normalization or weighting was done to this measure.

The final public transparency score is used in the calculation of the overall raw score in *Section II.G. Calculation of the Overall Score for the Data-Driven* Specialties.

# G. Calculation of the Overall Score for the Data-Driven Specialties

# **Most Specialties**

For all specialties except Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery; Obstetrics & Gynecology; Neurology & Neurosurgery; Pulmonology & Lung Surgery; and Rehabilitation, the *U.S. News* ranking score reflects the following weights for each of the major components:

- Structure = 35%
- Process/expert opinion = 15%
- Outcomes = 45%
- Patient experience = 5%

Individual measure weights can be found in the component-specific sections earlier.

Rankings by *U.S. News* score for the top 50 hospitals in each specialty are shown in *Appendix D*. Hospitals were recognized as High Performing in a specialty, for the Best Regional Hospitals lists, if they were not ranked in the top 50, but they received a score in the top 10% of all hospitals receiving a score in that specialty.

Equation (2) shows the formula for calculating the raw overall score for each specialty. A hospital's raw score in a specialty can be thought of as a simple sum of the four weighted ranking components, shown as follows:

$$Raw score = \left\{ \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n_s} S_i \right) + P + \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n_o} O_i \right) + PE \right\}, \tag{2}$$

where

 $S_i$  = normalized and weighted value for structural measure i,

P = normalized and weighted value for process/expert opinion score,

 $O_i$  = normalized and weighted value for outcome measure i, and

PE = normalized and weighted hospital-wide patient experience score.

This formula is illustrative only. It *cannot* be used to calculate the *U.S. News* score for an individual hospital or replicate a published score.

For presentation purposes, raw scores were transformed to a scale that assigns a U.S. News score of 100 to the top hospital. The formula for the transformation is shown in Equation (3):

$$U.S. \ News \ Score = (raw \ score - minimum)/range.$$
 (3)

# Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery; Obstetrics & Gynecology; Neurology & Neurosurgery; and Pulmonology & Lung Surgery

For Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery; Obstetrics & Gynecology; Neurology & Neurosurgery; and Pulmonology & Lung Surgery, the *U.S. News* score included a fifth component—public transparency—which accounts for 3% of the overall score. To accommodate this component, process/expert opinion weight was reduced to 12%. The *U.S. News* score for these four specialties reflects the following weights for each major component:

- Structure = 35%
- Process/expert opinion = 12%
- Outcomes = 45%
- Patient experience = 5%
- Public transparency = 3%

The formula for calculating the raw score for these four specialties is shown in Equation (4), shown as follows:

Raw score = 
$$\{ (\sum_{i=1}^{n_s} S_i) + P + (\sum_{i=1}^{n_o} O_i) + PE + PT \},$$
 (4)

where

 $S_i$  = normalized and weighted value for structural measure i,

P = normalized and weighted value for process/expert opinion score,

 $O_i$  = normalized and weighted value for outcome measure i,

PE = normalized and weighted hospital-wide patient experience score, and

PT = public transparency score.

As with the other specialties, raw scores were transformed to a scale that assigned a score of 100 to the top hospital.

#### Rehabilitation

For inpatient rehabilitation, the *U.S. News* score represents a mix of structure, process (including patient safety), and outcomes but does not include patient experience or public transparency at this point in time. Because the Rehabilitation specialty was defined solely by expert opinion prior to the 2022–2023 ranking, a higher weight for this component has been used to maintain the continuity with past rankings. For the 2024–2025 rankings, the expert opinion measure is worth 30% of the total ranking. The other measures have been adjusted to reflect the availability and quality of the measures currently available.

The *U.S. News* score for Rehabilitation ranking reflects the following weights for each major component:

- Structure = 38%
- Process (including expert opinion and patient safety) = 32%
- Outcomes = 30%

The formula for calculating the raw score for Rehabilitation is shown in Equation (5), shown as follows:

Raw score = 
$$\{ (\sum_{i=1}^{n_s} S_i) + P + (\sum_{i=1}^{n_o} O_i) \},$$
 (5)

where

 $S_i$  = normalized and weighted value for Rehabilitation structural measure i,

P = normalized and weighted value for Rehabilitation process/expert opinion score, and

 $O_i$  = normalized and weighted value for Rehabilitation outcome measure *i*.

As with the other specialties, raw scores were transformed to a scale that assigned a score of 100 to the top hospital.

# **Adjustments for Missing IRF Care Compare Data**

For hospitals that meet the eligibility requirements but do not have IRF Care Compare data, such as certain long-term acute care hospitals and IRFs located in Maryland, which are exempt from CMS's standard IRF reporting requirements, the rankings used a modeling technique to rank each

facility without regard to the missing IRF Care Compare data. This is done by calculating the overall Rehabilitation *U.S. News* score in two ways. First, an overall score was calculated for all eligible hospitals (including those missing the IRF Care Compare measures) using a measure weight of zero for all IRF Care Compare measures and the measure weights described earlier for all other measures. Then, the overall score was computed again for all hospitals that have IRF Care Compare data, this time using the measure weights described earlier for all measures, including those derived from IRF Care Compare. Finally, the overall score from the first calculation was used as the *U.S. News* score for hospitals that are missing IRF Care Compare data, and the overall score from the second calculation is used for hospitals that have IRF Care Compare data. This ensures that eligible hospitals missing key data points are ranked relative to other rehabilitation hospitals only on the basis of the data available for all rehabilitation hospitals.

# III. Expert Opinion-Based Specialties

Available data for the three expert opinion—based specialties are significantly limited. Life-threatening conditions and procedures are more uncommon in Ophthalmology and Psychiatry, rendering mortality irrelevant as a primary outcome. Inpatient volume in Rheumatology is also extremely low, making calculation of mortality unreliable. Reliable structural measures also are unavailable in these three specialties in most cases. Therefore, expert opinion alone determines the ranking in these specialties. This section describes the eligibility and procedures used to develop the rankings for these three specialties.

# A. Eligibility

In specialties driven solely by expert opinion, hospitals have never had to meet the same eligibility standards as in the data-driven specialties. Ranked hospitals are those with an expert opinion score of at least 5% across the last 3 years. Hospitals with a score of at least 3% and less than 5% are recognized as High Performing in the Best Regional Hospitals lists. Hospitals with a score of at least 1% are considered eligible and are listed in the specialty directory on the *U.S. News* website.

# **B.** Process/Expert Opinion

The data-driven specialties and expert opinion—based specialties share the same process/expert opinion component (see *Section II.D. Process/Expert* Opinion for more information).

# C. Calculation of the Rankings

As described earlier, scores for the expert opinion—based specialties of Ophthalmology, Psychiatry, and Rheumatology must be calculated differently from scores for the data-driven specialties because of the unavailability of structural and outcome measures. Thus, we rank hospitals in these specialties solely by expert opinion (see *Appendix E*).

# **IV. Number of Ranked Hospitals**

This year, 160 different hospitals were ranked in at least one data-driven or expert opinion—based Best Hospitals specialty. Another 17 specialty hospitals that closely coordinate care with a partner hospital shared one or two specialty-specific rankings with that partner.

# V. Honor Roll and Best Regional Hospitals

Since 1990, the Honor Roll has recognized excellence across a broad range of inpatient services. Since 2016, the Honor Roll methodology has factored in both the specialty rankings and the Procedures & Conditions ratings (described in a separate methodology report issued by *U.S. News*). The Honor Roll, which appears in *Appendix F*, was determined as follows.

- 1. In Rehabilitation, the No. 1–ranked hospital received 10 Honor Rolls points, and lower-ranked hospitals progressively received 1 less point down to 1 point for all hospitals ranked 10–50. Hospitals that do not offer inpatient rehabilitation on site received points earned by a nearby affiliated hospital belonging to the same health system, if that affiliated hospital was ranked in Rehabilitation and earned fewer total points toward the Honor Roll from all other specialties combined.
- 2. In each of the other 11 data-driven specialty rankings, the No. 1–ranked hospital received 25 Honor Roll points, and lower-ranked hospitals progressively received 1 less point down to 6 points for No. 20. All hospitals ranked 21–50 received 5 points. A hospital ranked No. 1 in all other 11 data-driven specialties would have received 25 × 11 = 275 points.
- 3. In each of the three expert opinion—based specialties, the No. 1—ranked hospital received 10 Honor Roll points, the No. 2 hospital received 9 points, and lower-ranked hospitals progressively received 1 less point. Hospitals that did not receive an ordinal ranking received no Honor Roll points. A hospital ranked No. 1 in all three expert opinion—based specialties would have received 30 points.

- 4. In 18 of the 20 procedures and conditions for which *U.S. News* published ratings,\* hospitals received 12 points for each rating of High Performing. Only 6 points were awarded for each High Performing rating in two procedures related to structural heart disease (aortic valve surgery and transcatheter aortic valve replacement). If a hospital were rated High Performing in all 20 procedures and conditions, it would receive 228 points.
- 5. The Honor Roll recognizes the 20 hospitals that earned the most points out of the possible total of 543 across the 15 specialties and 20 procedures and conditions. In 2024–2025, hospitals that earned 280 points or more are recognized.

Because it is often not advisable to travel long distances to receive hospital-based care, *U.S. News* ranks hospitals regionally in both states and major metropolitan areas. Within a state or metropolitan area, regional hospital rank is determined by a hospital's performance in the Best Hospitals specialty rankings and by its Procedures & Conditions ratings. Details of the scoring methodology for the Best Regional Hospitals listings by state and metropolitan areas are available at <a href="http://health.usnews.com/health-care/best-hospitals/articles/faq-how-and-why-we-rank-and-rate-hospitals">http://health.usnews.com/health-care/best-hospitals/articles/faq-how-and-why-we-rank-and-rate-hospitals</a>.

# VI. Changes to the Methodology for 2024–2025

Methodological evolution is necessary because healthcare itself is constantly evolving. For example, the growing role of outpatient care served as an impetus for several of this year's changes. Stakeholder feedback led us to increase weight on objective quality measures, decrease weight on expert opinion, and add a transparency measure. Other input from clinical experts encouraged us to modify hospital eligibility criteria in several specialties and, in other specialties, revise case inclusion criteria. Changes to outcome measure definitions and risk adjustment, meanwhile, leveraged insights gained by the *U.S. News* team and scientific advances made by a federal agency.

A brief description of changes made in past years can be found in *Appendix C*. For complete information on changes made in previous years, we recommend reviewing the project methodology reports for those years, which are available online at <a href="https://www.rti.org/impact/best-hospitals-and-best-childrens-hospitals-rankings">https://www.rti.org/impact/best-hospitals-and-best-childrens-hospitals-rankings</a>. A review of the changes to the methodology for this year of the Best Hospitals rankings is provided as follows:

• MA claims included in survival outcome measures. In 11 adult specialties (i.e., all data-driven specialties other than Rehabilitation), hospitals' survival scores were

<sup>\*</sup> Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; congestive heart failure; heart attack; stroke; diabetes; kidney failure; pneumonia; hip replacement; knee replacement; back surgery; hip fracture; abdominal aortic aneurysm repair; heart bypass surgery (CABG); aortic valve surgery; transcatheter aortic valve replacement; colon cancer surgery; lung cancer surgery; prostate cancer surgery; gynecological cancer surgery; and leukemia, lymphoma, and myeloma.

- calculated as a weighted average of scores in traditional Medicare beneficiaries and in patients insured by MA plans.
- Exclusion of interhospital transfers. Patients transferred to a hospital from an outside ED were excluded from the hospital's risk-adjusted outcomes in all specialties. This change removes a potential disincentive for hospitals to receive high-risk patients who may benefit from being transferred, such as certain stroke patients. Additionally, patients transferred from one hospital's inpatient service to another's will continue to be excluded as well. Because of high variability in hospitals' coding practices, interhospital transfers involving traditional Medicare beneficiaries were identified only using consecutive claims from both hospitals involved, rather than using the "admission source" code in the claims data.
- Outpatient outcomes in Ear, Nose & Throat. Expanding the use of the "Prevention of outpatient procedural complications" measure first introduced in Orthopedics and Urology in the 2023–2024 rankings, hospitals were able to earn points in Ear, Nose & Throat by their ability to prevent complications related to procedures conducted on an outpatient basis.
- Increased weights for rehabilitation volume. Weighting was adjusted in Rehabilitation to increase the weights of volume measures from 15% to 18%. This resulted in the weights for all six volume measures to be equal at 3%.
- Decreased weights and capped scores for flu vaccination rates in Rehabilitation. Weights for flu vaccination rates were reduced 3 percentage points from 5% to 2%. This was as a result of recommendations from key rehabilitation associations and the desire to make all volume measures equal in weight. Additionally, flu vaccination rates were capped at 90%, meaning that any flu vaccination rate equal to 90% or higher received the maximum score.
- Refining inclusion and exclusion criteria in the Ear, Nose & Throat and Geriatrics specialties. Acoustic neuroma surgery cases were added to the Ear, Nose & Throat specialty. Specifically, inpatient visits with D33.3 (benign neoplasm of cranial nerves) principal diagnoses codes in MS-DRGs 025, 026, and 027 are added. Additionally, palliative tracheostomy cases identified with principal and secondary diagnosis code Z51.5 in MS-DRGs 011, 012, and 013 were removed from the Ear, Nose & Throat and Geriatrics specialties.

# **VII. Future Enhancements**

The Best Hospitals methodology is reexamined and refined each year. As always, RTI will closely monitor the potential of new data sources and measures. As follows, we describe several methodological enhancements that are being considered:

- Evaluate additional outcome measures for possible inclusion. We will continue to evaluate new and alternative outcome measures that may provide unique information on performance of hospitals in caring for patients.
- Further refine the risk adjustment of the outcome measures. We will continue to evaluate additional risk-adjustment refinements that may provide more precise adjustment for patient mix factors, including social determinants of health.
- Add objective data to expert opinion—based specialties. We are examining opportunities to add structural data and outcome measures to the current expert opinion—based specialties.
- Evaluate transparency measures for other specialties. We will continue to evaluate new measures for transparency of outcomes, similar to the ACC, STS, and American Heart Association public transparency measures used in Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery; the American Heart Association public transparency measure used in Neurology & Neurosurgery; and the STS public transparency measure used in Pulmonology & Lung Surgery.
- Review external data sources. We will investigate additional and new sources of data that offer quality measures for all hospitals.

# VIII. Contact Information

We welcome suggestions and questions. Readers and users are encouraged to contact the Best Hospitals research team at the following email address. This report, as well as all others from 2005 forward, can be viewed or downloaded from the RTI website at <a href="https://www.rti.org/impact/best-hospitals-and-best-childrens-hospitals-rankings">https://www.rti.org/impact/best-hospitals-and-best-childrens-hospitals-rankings</a>. Specific questions or comments about this report can be sent to <a href="mailto:BestHospitals@rti.org">BestHospitals@rti.org</a>.

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# Appendix A Structural Variable Map

The following variables, used to construct structural elements of the 2024-2025 data-driven rankings, were taken from the 2022 Annual Survey of Hospitals Database published by the American Hospital Association, unless otherwise specified. Hospitals did not receive more than one point for any one service.

#### **Key Technologies (8 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
DRADFHOS, DRADFSYS or DRADFVEN=1
FFDMHOS, FFDMSYS or FFDMVEN=1
IGRTHOS, IGRTSYS or IGRTVEN=1
MSCTHOS MSCTSYS, MSCTVEN, MSCTGHOS, MSCTGSYS or MSCTGVEN=1
PETCTHOS, PETCTSYS or PETCTVEN=1
ROBOHOS, ROBOSYS or ROBOVEN=1
SPECTHOS, SPECTSYS or SPECTVEN=1
SRADHOS, SRADSYS or SRADVEN=1

#### **Cancer Advanced Technologies (8 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
FFDMHOS, FFDMSYS or FFDMVEN=1
IGRTHOS, IGRTSYS or IGRTVEN=1
IMRTHOS, IMRTSYS or IMRTVEN=1
ROBOHOS, ROBOSYS or ROBOVEN=1
PETCTHOS, PETCTSYS or PETCTVEN=1
BEAMHOS, BEAMSYS or BEAMVEN=1
SRADHOS, SRADSYS or SRADVEN=1
OTBONHOS, OTBONSYS or OTBONVEN=1

#### Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery Advanced Technologies (6 points possible)

1 point awarded if
MSCTHOS MSCTSYS, MSCTVEN, MSCTGHOS, MSCTGSYS or MSCTGVEN=1
PETCTHOS, PETCTSYS or PETCTVEN=1
ROBOHOS, ROBOSYS or ROBOVEN=1
SPECTHOS, SPECTSYS, SPECTVEN=1
TISUHOS, TISUSYS or TISUVEN=1
CMS Heart Transplant Center=1

## **Diabetes & Endocrinology Advanced Technologies (4 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
DRADFHOS, DRADFSYS or DRADFVEN=1
IGRTHOS, IGRTSYS or IGRTVEN=1
PETCTHOS, PETCTSYS or PETCTVEN=1
SRADHOS, SRADSYS or SRADVEN=1

#### Ear, Nose & Throat Advanced Technologies (1 point possible)

1 point awarded if	
SRADHOS, SRADSYS or SRADVEN=1	

#### **Gastroenterology & GI Surgery Advanced Technologies (7 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
DRADFHOS, DRADFSYS or DRADFVEN=1
ENDOAHOS, ENDOASYS or ENDOAVEN=1
ENDORHOS, ENDORSYS or ENDORVEN=1
ENDOUHOS, ENDOUSYS or ENDOUVEN=1
IGRTHOS, IGRTSYS or IGRTVEN=1
SRADHOS, SRADSYS or SRADVEN=1
CMS Liver Transplant Center=1

# **Obstetrics & Gynecology Advanced Technologies (5 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
FFDMHOS, FFDMSYS or FFDMVEN=1
IGRTHOS, IGRTSYS or IGRTVEN=1
PETCTHOS, PETCTSYS or PETCTVEN=1
ROBOHOS, ROBOSYS or ROBOVEN=1
SRADHOS, SRADSYS or SRADVEN=1

## **Neurology & Neurosurgery Advanced Technologies (5 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
DRADFHOS, DRADFSYS or DRADFVEN=1
IGRTHOS, IGRTSYS or IGRTVEN=1
PETCTHOS, PETCTSYS or PETCTVEN=1
SPECTHOS, SPECTSYS or SPECTVEN=1
SRADHOS, SRADSYS or SRADVEN=1

#### **Orthopedics Advanced Technologies (2 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
CAOSHOS, CAOSSYS or CAOSVEN=1
TISUHOS, TISUSYS or TISUVEN=1

#### **Pulmonology & Lung Surgery Advanced Technologies (6 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
DRADFHOS, DRADFSYS or DRADFVEN=1
IGRTHOS, IGRTSYS or IGRTVEN=1
MSCTHOS, MSCTSYS, MSCTVEN, MSCTGHOS, MSCTGSYS or MSCTGVEN=1
PETCTHOS, PETCTSYS or PETCTVEN=1
SRADHOS, SRADSYS or SRADVEN=1
CMS Lung Transplant Center=1

## Rehabilitation Advanced Technologies (7 points possible)

1 point awarded if
RASTHOS, RASTSYS, or RASTVEN=1
REDSHOS, REDSSYS, or REDSVEN=1
RPRSHOS, RPRSSYS, or RPRSVEN=1
RBOTHOS, RBOTSYS, or RBOTVEN=1
RSIMHOS, RSIMSYS, or RSIMVEN=1
CTSCNHOS, CTSCNSYS, or CTSCNVEN=1
PETCTHOS, PETCTSYS, or PETCTVEN=1

#### **Urology Advanced Technologies (6 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
DRADFHOS, DRADFSYS or DRADFVEN=1
IGRTHOS, IGRTSYS or IGRTVEN=1
IMRTHOS, IMRTSYS or IMRTVEN=1
PETCTHOS, PETCTSYS or PETCTVEN=1
ROBOHOS, ROBOSYS or ROBOVEN=1
SRADHOS, SRADSYS or SRADVEN=1

#### **Nurse Staffing**

#### **Index equals:**

Calculation for hospitals with <u>no</u> onsite skilled nursing: Full-time Equivalent Registered Nurses (FTEN) divided by Adjusted Average Daily Census (ADJADC)\*. In cases where FTEN is missing the value is imputed using a sample of hospitals with non-extreme ratios with the following data: FTEN (Full time equivalent registered nurses reported), FTERN (Full time equivalent registered nurses estimated), ADJADC (Adjusted Average Daily Census) BDTOT (total hospital beds set up and staffed).

Calculation for hospitals with onsite skilled nursing: If a hospital has a nursing home type of long-term care unit (SUNITS=1) and reports registered nurse FTEs for this facility (FTERNLT>0), then calculate the ratio by dividing the Registered Nurses FTEs (FTEN) – the Registered Nurses FTEs assigned to the nursing facility (FTERNLT) by the modified Adjusted Average Daily Census (ADJADCH). Note that the ADJADCH is provided by the AHA directly to the project.

#### **Trauma Center**

"Yes" if...

TRAUML90=1 or 2 and TRAUMHOS=1

#### **Cancer Patient Services (8 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
GNTCHOS, GNTCSYS or GNTCVEN=1
HOSPCHOS, HOSPCSYS or HOSPCVEN=1
PAINHOS, PAINSYS or PAINVEN=1
PALHOS, PALSYS or PALVEN=1
PCAHOS, PCASYS or PCAVEN=1
LINGHOS, LINGSYS or LINGVEN=1
AIRBHOS, AIRBSYS or AIRBVEN=1
WMGTHOS, WMGTSYS or WMGTVEN=1

#### Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery Patient Services (8 points possible)

1 point awarded if
CHABHOS, CHABSYS or CHABVEN=1
CICHOS, CICSYS or CICVEN=1
HOSPCHOS, HOSPCSYS or HOSPCVEN=1
PAINHOS, PAINSYS or PAINVEN=1
PALHOS, PALSYS or PALVEN=1
PCAHOS, PCASYS or PCAVEN=1
LINGHOS, LINGSYS or LINGVEN=1
WMGTHOS, WMGTSYS or WMGTVEN=1

<sup>\*</sup> Based on the AHA documentation, the ADJADC is derived by first multiplying the number of inpatient days by the ratio of outpatient revenue per outpatient visit to inpatient revenue per inpatient day (to get the number of patient days attributable to outpatient services), then adding that to the number of inpatient days.

# **Diabetes & Endocrinology Patient Services (8 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
GNTCHOS, GNTCSYS or GNTCVEN=1
HOSPCHOS, HOSPCSYS or HOSPCVEN=1
PAINHOS, PAINSYS or PAINVEN=1
PALHOS, PALSYS or PALVEN=1
PCAHOS, PCASYS or PCAVEN=1
LINGHOS, LINGSYS or LINGVEN=1
AIRBHOS, AIRBSYS or AIRBVEN=1
WMGTHOS, WMGTSYS or WMGTVEN=1

# Ear, Nose & Throat Patient Services (8 points possible)

1 point awarded if
GNTCHOS, GNTCSYS or GNTCVEN=1
HOSPCHOS, HOSPCSYS or HOSPCVEN=1
PAINHOS, PAINSYS or PAINVEN=1
PALHOS, PALSYS or PALVEN=1
PCAHOS, PCASYS or PCAVEN=1
LINGHOS, LINGSYS or LINGVEN=1
AIRBHOS, AIRBSYSor AIRBVEN=1
WMGTHOS, WMGTSYS or WMGTVEN=1

#### **Gastroenterology & GI Surgery Patient Services (8 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
GNTCHOS, GNTCSYS or GNTCVEN=1
HOSPCHOS, HOSPCSYS or HOSPCVEN=1
PAINHOS, PAINSYS or PAINVEN=1
PALHOS, PALSYS or PALVEN=1
PCAHOS, PCASYS or PCAVEN=1
LINGHOS, LINGSYS or LINGVEN=1
AIRBHOS, AIRBSYS or AIRBVEN=1
WMGTHOS, WMGTSYS or WMGTVEN=1

# **Geriatric Care Patient Services (9 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
ALZHOS, ALZSYS or ALZVEN=1
ARTHCHOS, ARTHCSYS or ARTHCVEN=1
HOSPCHOS, HOSPCSYS or HOSPCVEN=1
PAINHOS, PAINSYS or PAINVEN=1
PALHOS, PALSYSor PALVEN=1
PCAHOS, PCASYS or PCAVEN=1
PSYGRHOS, PSYGRSYS or PSYGRVEN=1
LINGHOS, LINGSYS or LINGVEN=1
WMGTHOS, WMGTSYS or WMGTVEN=1

# **Obstetrics & Gynecology Patient Services (9 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
FRTCHOS, FRTCSYS or FRTCVEN=1
CICHOS, CICSYS or CICVEN=1
GNTCHOS, GNTCSYS or GNTCVEN=1
HOSPCHOS, HOSPCSYS or HOSPCVEN=1
PAINHOS, PAINSYS or PAINVEN=1
PALHOS, PALSYS or PALVEN=1
PCAHOS, PCASYS or PCAVEN=1
LINGHOS, LINGSYS or LINGVEN=1
AIRBHOS, AIRBSYS or AIRBVEN=1
WMGTHOS, WMGTSYS or WMGTVEN=1

# **Neurology & Neurosurgery Patient Services (9 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
ALZHOS, ALZSYS or ALZVEN=1
GNTCHOS, GNTCSYS or GNTCVEN=1
HOSPCHOS, HOSPCSYS or HOSPCVEN=1
PAINHOS, PAINSYS or PAINVEN=1
PALHOS, PALSYS or PALVEN=1
PCAHOS, PCASYS or PCAVEN=1
LINGHOS, LINGSYS or LINGVEN=1
AIRBHOS, AIRBSYS or AIRBVEN=1
WMGTHOS, WMGTSYS or WMGTVEN=1

# **Orthopedics Patient Services (7 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
ARTHCHOS, ARTHCSYS or ARTHCVEN=1
HOSPCHOS, HOSPCSYS or HOSPCVEN=1
PAINHOS, PAINSYS or PAINVEN=1
PALHOS, PALSYS or PALVEN=1
PCAHOS, PCASYS or PCAVEN=1
LINGHOS, LINGSYS or LINGVEN=1
WMGTHOS, WMGTSYS or WMGTVEN=1

# Pulmonology & Lung Surgery Patient Services (8 points possible)

1 point awarded if
GNTCHOS, GNTCSYS or GNTCVEN=1
HOSPCHOS, HOSPCSYS or HOSPCVEN=1
PAINHOS, PAINSYS or PAINVEN=1
PALHOS, PALSYS or PALVEN=1
PCAHOS, PCASYS or PCAVEN=1
LINGHOS, LINGSYS or LINGVEN=1
AIRBHOS, AIRBSYS or AIRBVEN=1
WMGTHOS, WMGTSYS or WMGTVEN=1

## **Rehabilitation Patient Services (16 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
CMNGTHOS, CMNGTSYS, or CMNGTVEN=1
ENBHOS, ENBSYS, or ENBVEN=1
LINGHOS, LINGSYS, or LINGVEN=1
NEROHOS, NEROSYS, or NEROVEN=1
OCCHSHOS, OCCHSSYS, or OCCHSVEN=1
PAINHOS, PAINSYS, or PAINVEN=1
PATRPHOS, PATRPSYS, or PATRPVEN=1
RHBOPHOS, RHBOPSYS, or RHBOPVEN=1
PSYLSHOS, PSYLSSYS, or PSYLSVEN=1
SOCWKHOS, SOCWKSYS, or SOCWKVEN=1
WMGTHOS, WMGTSYS, or WMGTVEN=1
HLTRHOS, HLTRSYS, or HLTRVEN=1
HEMOHOS, HEMOSYS, or HEMOVEN=1
EMSSHOS, EMSSSYS, or EMSSVEN=1
PATEDHOS, PATEDSYS, or PATEDVEN=1
SUPPGHOS, SUPPGSYS, or SUPPGVEN=1

# **Urology Patient Services (9 points possible)**

1 point awarded if
FRTCHOS, FRTCSYS or FRTCVEN=1
GNTCHOS, GNTCSYS or GNTCVEN=1
HOSPCHOS, HOSPCSYS or HOSPCVEN=1
PAINHOS, PAINSYS or PAINVEN=1
PALHOS, PALSYS or PALVEN=1
PCAHOS, PCASYS or PCAVEN=1
LINGHOS, LINGSYS or LINGVEN=1
AIRBHOS, AIRBSYS or AIRBVEN=1
WMGTHOS, WMGTSYS or WMGTVEN=1

# **ICU Specialists**

#### 1 point awarded if...

if (FTEINT>0 or TPINT>0 or INTCAR>0 or FTEMSI>0 or FTECIC>0 or FTEOIC>0) then intens=1; if FTEINT>0 and FTEINT=sum(of FTENIC FTEPIC) then intens=0;

# Appendix B 2024-2025 Diagnosis-Related Group (DRG) Groupings by Specialty

#### Cancer

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
		014	Include all
M	Allogeneic bone marrow transplant	016	Include all
		017	Include all
S	Craniotomy with Major Device Implant or Acute Complex Central Nervous System (CNS) Principal Diagnosis (PDX) with MCC or Chemotherapy Implant or Epilepsy with Neurostimulator	023	Include procedures: 3E0Q005
N		054	Include all
M	Nervous system neoplasms	055	Include all
	Ear, nose, mouth & throat malignancy	146	Include all
M		147	Include all
		148	Include all
		180	Include all
M	Respiratory neoplasms	181	Include all
		182	Include all
		374	Include all
M	Digestive malignancy	375	Include all
		376	Include all
		435	Include all
M	Malignancy of hepatobiliary system or pancreas	436	Include all
		437	Include all
	Spinal fue ave convey apinal oun/malig/infee or 0	456	Include diagnoses: C41.2, C79.51, C79.52, C7B.03
S	Spinal fus exc cerv w spinal curv/malig/infec or 9+ fus	457	See MS-DRG 456
		458	See MS-DRG 456

# Cancer (cont.)

Medical/	DRG Title	MS-	ICD-10
M	Pathological fractures & musculoskelet & conn tiss malig	<b>542</b>	Exclude diagnoses: M30.1, M31.2, M31.30, M31.31, M48.40XA, M48.41XA, M48.42XA, M48.43XA, M48.44XA, M48.45XA, M48.41XA, M48.45XA, M48.46XA, M48.45XA, M48.52XA, M48.53XA, M48.54XA, M48.55XA, M48.51XA, M48.52XA, M48.53XA, M48.54XA, M48.55XA, M48.56XA, M48.57XA, M48.53XA, M48.54XA, M48.55XA, M48.56XA, M48.57XA, M48.53XA, M48.0.022A, M80.011A, M80.012A, M80.013A, M80.031A, M80.032A, M80.031A, M80.022A, M80.02A, M80.04A, M80.04A, M80.04A, M80.03A, M80.051A, M80.052A, M80.059A, M80.061A, M80.062A, M80.069A, M80.071A, M80.072A, M80.079A, M80.08XA, M80.80XA, M80.811A, M80.812A, M80.819A, M80.821A, M80.82A, M80.82A, M80.831A, M80.832A, M80.839A, M80.841A, M80.842A, M80.849A, M80.851A, M80.852A, M80.859A, M80.861A, M80.862A, M80.869A, M80.871A, M80.872A, M80.879A, M80.88XA, M84.30XA, M84.311A, M84.312A, M84.331A, M84.331A, M84.331A, M84.331A, M84.334A, M84.334A, M84.339A, M84.341A, M84.352A, M84.353A, M84.341A, M84.359A, M84.351A, M84.352A, M84.359A, M84.361A, M84.361A, M84.362A, M84.363A, M84.374A, M84.375A, M84.437A, M84.47A, M84.55A, M84.5
S	Mastectomy for malignancy	544 582 583	See MS-DRG 542 Include all Include all

## Cancer (cont.)

Cancer (Cont.)				
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10	
M	Major skin disorders	595 596	Include diagnoses: C43.0, C43.20, C43.21, C43.22, C43.30, C43.31, C43.39, C43.4, C43.51, C43.52, C43.59, C43.60, C43.61, C43.62, C43.70, C43.71, C43.72, C43.8, C43.9, C4A.0, C4A.10, C4A.11, C4A.12, C4A.20, C4A.21, C4A.22, C4A.30, C4A.31, C4A.39, C4A.4, C4A.51, C4A.52, C4A.59, C4A.60, C4A.61, C4A.62, C4A.70, C4A.71, C4A.72, C4A.8, C4A.9, D03.0, D03.20, D03.21, D03.22, D03.30, D03.39, D03.4, D03.51, D03.52, D03.59, D03.60, D03.61, D03.62, D03.70, D03.71, D03.72, D03.8, D03.9  See MS-DRG 595	
М	Malignant breast disorders	597 598	Include all Include all	
		599 656	Include all Include all	
S	Kidney & ureter procedures for neoplasm	657 658	Include all Include all	
М	Kidney & urinary tract neoplasms	686 687 688	Include all Include all	
S	Other male reproductive system O.R. proc for malignancy	715 716	Include all	
M	Malignancy, male reproductive system	722 723 724	Include all Include all	
S	Uterine & adnexa proc for ovarian or adnexal malignancy	736 737 738	Include all Include all Include all	
S	Uterine,adnexa proc for non-ovarian/adnexal malig	739 740 741	Include all Include all Include all	
M	Malignancy, female reproductive system	754 755 756	Include all Include all Include all	
M	Major hematol/immun diag exc sickle cell crisis & coagul	808 809 810	Include diagnoses: T86.00, T86.01, T86.02, T86.03, T86.09 See MS-DRG 808 See MS-DRG 808	
S	Lymphoma & leukemia w major O.R. procedure	820 821 822	Include all Include all Include all	
S	Lymphoma & non-acute leukemia w other O.R. proc	823 824 825	Include all Include all Include all	

# Cancer (cont.)

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
S	Myeloprolif disord or poorly diff neopl w maj O.R. proc	826	Exclude diagnoses: Z85.00, Z85.01, Z85.020, Z85.028, Z85.030, Z85.038, Z85.040, Z85.048, Z85.05, Z85.060, Z85.068, Z85.07, Z85.09, Z85.110, Z85.118, Z85.12, Z85.20, Z85.21, Z85.22, Z85.230, Z85.238, Z85.29, Z85.3, Z85.40, Z85.41, Z85.42, Z85.43, Z85.44, Z85.45, Z85.46, Z85.47, Z85.48, Z85.49, Z85.50, Z85.51, Z85.520, Z85.528, Z85.53, Z85.54, Z85.59, Z85.6, Z85.71, Z85.72, Z85.79, Z85.810, Z85.818, Z85.819, Z85.820, Z85.821, Z85.828, Z85.830, Z85.831, Z85.840, Z85.841, Z85.848, Z85.850, Z85.858, Z85.89, Z85.9, Z87.410
		827	See MS-DRG 826
		828	See MS-DRG 826
S	Myeloprolif disord or poorly diff neopl w other O.R. proc	829	See MS-DRG 826
3		830	See MS-DRG 826
	Acute leukemia w/o major O.R. procedure	834	Include all
M		835	Include all
		836	Include all
	Chemo w acute leukemia as sdx or w high dose chemo agent	837	Include all
M		838	Include all
		839	Include all
		840	Include all
М	Lymphoma & non-acute leukemia	841	Include all
		842	Include all
		843	See MS-DRG 826
М	Other myeloprolif dis or poorly diff neopl diag	844	See MS-DRG 826
		845	See MS-DRG 826
l	Chemotherapy w/o acute leukemia as secondary	846	Include all
M	diagnosis	847	Include all
		848	Include all

# Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery\*

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
S	Heart transplant or implant of heart assist system	001 002	Include all
S	Major chest procedures	163	Include procedures: 025N0ZZ, 025N3ZZ, 025N4ZZ, 025P0ZZ, 025P3ZZ, 025P4ZZ, 025Q0ZZ, 025Q3ZZ, 025Q4ZZ, 025R0ZZ, 025SAZZ, 025R0ZZ, 025SAZZ, 025SAZZ, 025SAZZ, 025X4ZZ, 025V0ZZ, 025X3ZZ, 025V4ZZ, 025W0ZZ, 025W3ZZ, 025W3ZZ, 025W3ZZ, 025W0ZZ, 025W3ZZ, 025W3ZZ, 025W0ZZ, 025W3ZZ, 025W3ZZ, 025W0ZZ, 025W3ZZ, 025W3ZZ, 025W0ZZ, 025W3ZZ, 025W3ZZ, 028P0ZZ, 028P0ZZ, 028P0ZZ, 028P3ZZ, 028P4ZZ, 028P0ZZ, 028P3ZZ, 028P4ZZ, 028P0ZZ, 028P3ZZ, 028P4ZZ, 028P0ZZ, 028R3ZZ, 028P4ZZ, 028V3ZZ, 028W3ZZ, 028W3ZZ, 028W3ZZ, 028W3ZZ, 028W3ZZ, 028W3ZZ, 028W3ZZ, 02CN3ZZ, 03CN3ZZ, 0

# Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery (cont.)\*

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
S	Major chest procedures (cont.)	163 (cont.)	05514ZZ, 05530ZZ, 05533ZZ, 05534ZZ, 05540ZZ, 05563ZZ, 05564ZZ, 05550ZZ, 05553ZZ, 05554ZZ, 05560ZZ, 05563ZZ, 05564ZZ, 05B00ZZ, 05B03ZZ, 05B04ZZ, 05B10ZZ, 05B13ZZ, 05B14ZZ, 05B30ZZ, 05B33ZZ, 05B34ZZ, 05B40ZZ, 05B43ZZ, 05B44ZZ, 05B50ZZ, 05B53ZZ, 05B54ZZ, 05B60ZZ, 05B63ZZ, 05B64ZZ, 05C00ZZ, 05C04ZZ, 05C10ZZ, 05C14ZZ, 05C30ZZ, 05C34ZZ, 05C40ZZ, 05C4ZZ, 05C50ZZ, 05C54ZZ, 05C60ZZ, 05C64ZZ, 05L30CZ, 05L30DZ, 05L33CZ, 05L33CZ, 05L33DZ, 05L33ZZ, 05L34CZ, 05L34DZ, 05L34ZZ, 05L40CZ, 05L40DZ, 05L40ZZ, 05L43CZ, 05L43DZ, 05L40CZ, 05L44DZ, 05L44ZZ, 05L50CZ, 05L50DZ, 05L50ZZ, 05L53CZ, 05L53DZ, 05L53ZZ, 05L53CZ, 05L53DZ, 05L53ZZ, 05L60CZ, 05L60DZ, 05L60ZZ, 05L63CZ, 05L60CZ, 05L60DZ, 05L60ZZ, 05L63CZ, 05L63DZ, 05L64ZZ, 05L64DZ, 05L64ZZ, 05R007Z, 05R00JZ, 05R00KZ, 05R047Z, 05R04JZ, 05R04KZ, 05R107Z, 05R10JZ, 05R10KZ, 05R347Z, 05R34JZ, 05R34KZ, 05R407Z, 05R30JZ, 05R30KZ, 05R347Z, 05R34JZ, 05R34KZ, 05R507Z, 05R30JZ, 05R30KZ, 05R547Z, 05R64JZ, 05R64KZ, 05R607Z, 05R60JZ, 05R60KZ, 05R647Z, 05R64JZ, 05R64KZ, 0WPD00Z, 0WPD02Z, 0WPD03Z, 0WWD31Z, 0WWD03Z, 0WWD03Z, 0WWD03Z, 0WWD03Z, 0WWD03Z, 0WWD03Z, 0WWD3Z, 0WWD03Z, 0WWD0
S	Other heart assist system implant	215	Include all
S	Cardiac valve & oth maj cardiothoracic proc w card cath	216 217 218	Include all Include all Include all
S	Cardiac valve & oth maj cardiothoracic proc w/o card cath	219 220 221	Include all Include all Include all
S	Cardiac defib implant w cardiac cath w AMI/HF/shock	222 223	Include all Include all
S	Cardiac defib implant w cardiac cath w/o AMI/HF/shock	224 225	Include all Include all
S	Cardiac defibrillator implant w/o cardiac cath	226 227	Include all Include all
S	Other cardiothoracic procedures	228 229 230	Include all Include all
S	Coronary bypass w PTCA	231 232	Include all
S	Coronary bypass w cardiac cath	233 234	Include all
S	Coronary bypass w/o cardiac cath	235 236	Include all Include all

# Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery (cont.)\*

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
		242	Include all
S	Permanent cardiac pacemaker implant	243	Include all
		244	Include all
S	AICD generator procedures	245	Include all
S	Perc cardiovasc proc w drug-eluting stent	246	Include all
- 3	r ere cardiovase proc w drug-eluting sterit	247	Include all
S	Perc cardiovasc proc w non-drug-eluting stent	248	Include all
<u> </u>	Tere cardiovase proc w non-drug-eluting stent	249	Include all
S	Perc cardiovasc proc w/o coronary artery stent	250	Include all
	Toro cardiovaso proc we coronary artery stem	251	Include all
		252	Include all
S	Other vascular procedures	253	Include all
		254	Include all
	Cardiac pacemaker revision except device	260	Include all
S	replacement	261	Include all
	<u> </u>	262	Include all
S	ACID lead procedures	265	Include all
S	Endovascular cardiac valve replacement	266	Include all
	•	267	Include all
S	Aortic and heart assist procedures except pulsation	268	Include all
	balloon	269	Include all
	Other major cardiovascular procedures	270	Include all
S		271	Include all
		272	Include all
	B ( ) ( ) ( )	273	Include all
S	Percutaneous intracardiac procedures	274	Include all
		280	Include all
М	Acute myocardial infarction, discharged alive	281	Include all
		282	Include all
l		283	Include all
М	Acute myocardial infarction, expired	284	Include all
		285	Include all
М	Circulatory disorders except AMI, w card cath	286	Include all
	, , ,	287	Include all
	A	288	Include all
M	Acute & subacute endocarditis	289	Include all
		290	Include all
.,	Here (Caller of Caller I	291	Include all
М	Heart failure & shock	292	Include all
		293	Include all
N.4	Cardian community 0 valuation discontinuo	306	Include all
M	Cardiac congenital & valvular disorders	308	Include all
		309	Include all
	Others simulated and south as all and a second	314	Include all
M	Other circulatory system diagnoses	315	Include all
		316	Include all
S	Other endovascular cardiac valve	319	Include all
	procedures	320	Include all

# **Diabetes & Endocrinology**

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
S	Adrenal & nituitory procedures	614	Include all
3	Adrenal & pituitary procedures	615	Include all
		619	Include all
S	O.R. procedures for obesity	620	Include all
		621	Include all
	Chin grafta & waynd dahrid for and a nutrit &	622	Include all
S	Skin grafts & wound debrid for endoc, nutrit & metab dis	623	Include all
		624	Include all
	Thyroid, parathyroid & thyroglossal procedures	625	Include all
S		626	Include all
		627	Include all
	Other endocrine, nutrit & metab O.R. proc	628	Include all
S		629	Include all
		630	Include all
		637	Include all
M	Diabetes	638	Include all
		639	Include all
М	Misc disorders of nutrition, metabolism, fluids/electrolyes	640	Exclude diagnosis: P92.6
М	Endocrino disordore	643	Include all
IVI	Endocrine disorders	644	Include all

# Ear, Nose & Throat

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
		011	Exclude diagnosis: Z51.5
S	Tracheostomy for face, mouth & neck diagnoses	012	See MS-DRG: 011
		013	See MS-DRG: 011
	Craniatamy and andayacaular intragranial	025	Include diagnosis: D33.3
S	Craniotomy and endovascular intracranial	026	See MS-DRG: 025
	procedures	027	See MS-DRG: 025
S	Major head & neck procedures	129	Include all
3		130	Include all
S	Cranial/Facial Procedures	131	Include all
3		132	Include all
S	Other ear, nose, mouth & throat O.R. procedures	133	Include all
S		134	Include all
S	Salivary gland procedures	139	Include all
		146	Include all
M	Ear, nose, mouth & throat malignancy	147	Include all
		148	Include all
М	Otitis media & URI	152	Include all
		154	Include all
M	Other ear, nose, mouth and throat diagnosis	155	Include all
		156	Include all

# **Gastroenterology & GI Surgery**

	Gastiventerology & GI Surgery				
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10		
S	Stomach, esophageal & duodenal proc	326 327 328	Include all Include all		
S	Major small & large bowel procedures	329 330 331	Include all Include all Include all		
S	Rectal resection	332 333	Include all Include all		
S	Peritoneal adhesiolysis	334 335 336 337	Include all Include all Include all		
S	Minor small & large bowel procedures	344	Include all   Include procedures: 0D580ZZ, 0D583ZZ, 0D584ZZ, 0D587ZZ, 0D588ZZ, 0D5A0ZZ, 0D5A3ZZ, 0D5A4ZZ, 0D5A7ZZ, 0D5A8ZZ, 0D5B0ZZ, 0D5B3ZZ, 0D5B3ZZ, 0D5B3ZZ, 0D5B3ZZ, 0D5B3ZZ, 0D5C0ZZ, 0D5C3ZZ, 0D5C4ZZ, 0D5C7ZZ, 0D5C8ZZ, 0D5E0ZZ, 0D5E0ZZ, 0D5E3ZZ, 0D5G7ZZ, 0D5F7ZZ, 0D5F7ZZ, 0D5F7ZZ, 0D5F7ZZ, 0D5G0ZZ, 0D5G3ZZ, 0D5G7ZZ, 0D5H0ZZ, 0D5H3ZZ, 0D5H7ZZ, 0D5K0ZZ, 0D5K3ZZ, 0D5K7ZZ, 0D5K0ZZ, 0D5K3ZZ, 0D5K7ZZ, 0D5K0ZZ, 0D5M3ZZ, 0D5M7ZZ, 0D5M0ZZ, 0D5M3ZZ, 0D5M7ZZ, 0D5M0ZZ, 0D5M3ZZ, 0D5M7ZZ, 0D5M0ZZ, 0D5M3ZZ, 0D5M7ZZ, 0D980ZZ, 0D980ZZ, 0D9840Z, 0D984ZZ, 0D987ZZ, 0D980ZZ, 0D980ZX, 0D980ZZ, 0D9840Z, 0D984ZZ, 0D9A0ZZ, 0D9A0ZZ, 0D9A0ZZ, 0D9A0ZZ, 0D9A0ZZ, 0D9A0ZZ, 0D9A0ZZ, 0D9A0ZZ, 0D9B0ZZ, 0D9B0ZZ, 0D9B0ZZ, 0D9B0ZZ, 0D9B0ZZ, 0D9B0ZZ, 0D9B0ZZ, 0D9C0ZZ, 0D9C4DZ, 0D9C4DZ, 0D9C4DZ, 0D9C0ZZ, 0D9C0ZZ, 0D9C8ZZ, 0D9E0ZZ, 0D9E0ZZ, 0D9E0ZZ, 0D9E0ZZ, 0D9F0ZZ, 0DPM0ZZ, 0D9F0ZZ, 0DCF0ZZ, 0DC		

# **Gastroenterology & GI Surgery (cont.)**

Modical /		MS-	
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	DRG	ICD-10
S	Minor small & large bowel procedures (cont.)	344 (cont.)	ODP000Z, ODP002Z, ODP003Z, ODP007Z, ODP00CZ, ODP00DZ, ODP00JZ, ODP00JZ, ODP00JZ, ODP00JZ, ODP00JZ, ODP03DZ, ODP03JZ, ODP04Z, ODP08Z, ODP08Z, ODP08Z, ODP08Z, ODP08Z, ODP00Z, ODPD03Z, ODPD03Z, ODPD07Z, ODPD0Z, ODPD03Z, ODPD03Z, ODPD07Z, ODPD0Z, ODPD0Z, ODPD03Z, ODPD03Z, ODPD03Z, ODPD03Z, ODPD3Z, ODPD4Z, ODPDAZ, ODPD
		346 356	Include all
S	Other digestive system O.R. procedures	357 358	Include all Include all
М	Major esophageal disorders	368 369 370	Include all Include all
М	Major gastrointestinal disorders & peritoneal infections	371 372 373	Include all Include all

# Gastroenterology & GI Surgery (cont.)

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
		374	Include all
М	Digestive malignancy	375	Include all
	<i>o o y</i>	376	Include all
		377	Include all
M	G.I. hemorrhage	378	Include all
	3	379	Include all
		380	Include all
M	Complicated peptic ulcer	381	Include all
		382	Include all
М	Uncomplicated peptic ulcer	383	Include all
		385	Include all
М	Inflammatory bowel disease	386	Include all
	,	387	Include all
		388	Include all
М	G.I. obstruction	389	Include all
М	Esophagitis, gastroent & misc digest disorders	391	Include all
		393	Include all
М	Other digestive system diagnoses	394	Include all
		405	Include all
S	Pancreas, liver & shunt procedures	406	Include all
	r andreas, iiver a shart procedures	407	Include all
		408	Include all
S	Biliary tract proc except only cholecyst w or w/o	409	Include all
G	c.d.e.	410	Include all
		411	Include all
S	Cholecystectomy w c.d.e.	412	Include all
Ö	Cholodystostomy w c.d.c.	413	Include all
		414	Include all
S	Cholecystectomy except by laparoscope w/o c.d.e.	415	Include all
		417	Include all
S	Laparoscopic cholecystectomy w/o c.d.e.	418	Include all
		420	Include all
S	Hepatobiliary diagnostic procedures	421	Include all
0	ricpatobiliary diagnostic procedures	422	Include all
		423	Include all
S	Other hepatobiliary or pancreas O.R. procedures	424	Include all
5	Other hepatobiliary or paricreas O.N. procedures	425	Include all
		432	Include all
М	Cirrhosis & alcoholic hepatitis	433	Include all
IVI	Cirriosis & alconolic nepatitis	434	Include all
		435	
М	Malignancy of hepatobiliary system or pancreas	436	Include all
IVI	manghancy of hepatobiliary system of pancieds	430	
			Include all
N.A	Disorders of nanorogo event malinum and	438	Include all
М	Disorders of pancreas except malignancy	439	Include all
		440	Include all
М	Disorders of liver except malig,cirr,alc hepa	441	Exclude diagnosis: R94.5
		442	See MS-DRG 441

#### **Geriatrics\***

	Geria		
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
S	Heart transplant or implant of heart assist system	001	Include all
		002	Include all
S	ECMO or trach w MV 96+ hrs or PDX exc face, mouth & neck w maj O.R.	003	Include all
S	Trach w MV 96+ hrs or PDX exc face, mouth & neck w/o maj O.R.	004	Include all
S	Liver transplant	005 006	Include all
S	Lung transplant	007	Include all
S	Simultaneous pancreas/kidney transplant	800	Include all
S	Pancreas transplant	010	Include all
		011	Exclude diagnosis: Z51.5
S	Tracheostomy for face, mouth & neck diagnoses	012	See MS-DRG 011
		013	See MS-DRG 011
		014	Include all
S	Allogeneic bone marrow transplant	016	Include all
		017	Include all
	Intracranial vascular procedures w PDX	020	Include all
S	hemorrhage	021	Include all
	nemornage	022	Include all
S	Cranio w major dev impl/acute complex CNS PDX	023	Include all
S	Cranio w major dev impi/acute complex CNS PDX	024	Include all
		025	Include all
S	Craniotomy & endovascular intracranial procedures	026	Include all
		027	Include all
		028	Include all
S	Spinal procedures	029	Include all
		030	Include all
		031	Include all
S	Ventricular shunt procedures	032	Include all
		033	Include all
		034	Include all
S	Carotid artery stent procedure	035	Include all
		036	Include all
		037	Include all
S	Extracranial procedures	038	Include all
		039	Include all
		040	Include all
S	Periph & cranial nerve & other nerv syst proc	041	Include all
		042	Include all
М	Spinal disorders & injuries	052	Include all
.**	ops. sicordoro si injunico	053	Include all
М	Nervous system neoplasms	054	Include all
141	Troit out oyutum mooplaamo	055	Include all
М	Degenerative nervous system disorders	056	Include all
	2 5gsstatte flortede eystern dioordoro	057	Include all

T8021 (central-line-associated bloodstream infections)

<sup>•</sup> T8351 (catheter-associated urinary tract infections)

	Geriatrics (cont.)					
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10			
		058	Include all			
M	Multiple sclerosis & cerebellar ataxia	059	Include all			
	·	060	Include all			
	Jacksonia Otralia Brassonakoni Osaksian an	061	Include all			
M	Ischemic Stroke, Precerebral Occlusion or	062	Include all			
	Transient Ischemia with Thrombolytic Agent	063	Include all			
		064	Include all			
M	Intracranial hemorrhage or cerebral infarction	065	Include all			
		066	Include all			
		067	Include all			
M	Nonspecific cva & precerebral occlusion w/o infarct	068	Include all			
М	Transient ischemia	069	Include all			
		070	Include all			
М	Nonspecific cerebrovascular disorders	071	Include all			
		072	Include all			
		073	Include all			
М	Cranial & peripheral nerve disorders	074	Include all			
		075	Include all			
М	Viral meningitis	076	Include all			
		077	Include all			
М	Hypertensive encephalopathy	078	Include all			
141		079	Include all			
		080	Include all			
M	Nontraumatic stupor & coma	081	Include all			
		082	Include all			
М	Traumatic stupor & coma, coma >1 hr	083	Include all			
IVI	Tradifiatio stupor a coma, coma > 1 m	084	Include all			
		085	Include all			
M	Traumatic stupor & coma, coma <1 hr	086	Include all			
IVI	Traumatic stupor & coma, coma < i nr	087	Include all			
		088	Include all			
M	Concussion	089	Include all			
IVI	Concussion	090	Include all			
		091	Include all			
M	Other disorders of pervous system	092	Include all			
141	Other disorders of nervous system	092	Include all			
		093	Include all			
M	Bacterial & tuberculous infections of nervous	094	Include all			
IVI	system	095				
		096	Include all			
N.4	Non-bacterial infect of nervous sys exc viral	098	Include all			
M	meningitis		Include all			
	-	099	Include all			
М	Seizures	100	Include all			
		101	Include all			
М	Headaches	102	Include all			
		103	Include all			

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	Geriatri		<b>,</b>
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
S	Orbital procedures	113	Include all
S	Extraocular procedures except orbit	114 115	Include all
	Extraocular procedures except orbit	116	Include all
S	Intraocular procedures	117	Include all
		121	Include all
М	Acute major eye infections	122	Include all
М	Neurological eye disorders	123	Include all
	,	124	Include all
М	Other disorders of the eye	125	Include all
0	Maior hand O made management	129	Include all
S	Major head & neck procedures	130	Include all
	Cranial/facial procedures	131	Include all
S	Cranial/facial procedures	132	Include all
S	Other ear need mouth & threat O.B. precedures	133	Include all
S	Other ear, nose, mouth & throat O.R. procedures	134	Include all
S	Cinus & masteid procedures	135	Include all
S	Sinus & mastoid procedures	136	Include all
S	Mouth procedures	137	Include all
	'	138	Include all
S	Salivary gland procedures	139	Include all
		146	Include all
M	Ear, nose, mouth & throat malignancy	147	Include all
		148	Include all
M	Dysequilibrium	149	Include all
М	Epistaxis	150	Include all
141	Еріошлю	151	Include all
М	Otitis media & URI	152	Include all
141	Otto modia a ora	153	Include all
		154	Include all
М	Other Ear, Nose, Mouth, and Throat Diagnoses	155	Include all
		156	Include all
		157	Include all
М	Dental & Oral Diseases	158	Include all
		159	Include all
		163	Include all
S	Major chest procedures	164	Include all
		165	Include all
	0.0	166	Include all
S	Other resp system O.R. procedures	167	Include all
		168	Include all
М	Pulmonary embolism	175	Include all
	, , , , , , ,	176	Include all
l	Business of the state of the st	177	Include all
М	Respiratory infections & inflammations	178	Include all
<u> </u>		179	Include all

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Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
		180	Include all
M	Respiratory neoplasms	181	Include all
		182	Include all
		183	Include all
М	Major chest trauma	184	Include all
		185	Include all
		186	Include all
M	Pleural effusion	187	Include all
		188	Include all
М	Pulmonary edema & respiratory failure	189	Include all
		190	Include all
М	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	191	Include all
		192	Include all
		193	Include all
М	Simple pneumonia & pleurisy	194	Include all
		195	Include all
		196	Include all
М	Interstitial lung disease	197	Include all
		198	Include all
	Pneumothorax	199	Include all
M		200	Include all
		201	Include all
М	Bronchitis & asthma	202	Include all
		203	Include all
M	Respiratory signs & symptoms	204	Include all
М	Other respiratory system diagnoses	205	Include all
	1 , , , ,	206	Include all
М	Respiratory system diagnosis w ventilator support	207	Include all
0		208	Include all
S	Other heart assist system implant	215	Include all
C	Cardiac valve & oth maj cardiothoracic proc w card	216 217	Include all
S	cath	218	Include all Include all
		219	Include all
S	Cardiac valve & oth maj cardiothoracic proc w/o	220	Include all
3	card cath	221	Include all
	Cardiae defih implant w cardiae eeth w	222	Include all
S	Cardiac defib implant w cardiac cath w AMI/HF/shock	223	Include all
	Cardiac defib implant w cardiac cath w/o	223	Include all
S	AMI/HF/shock	225	Include all
		226	Include all
S	Cardiac defibrillator implant w/o cardiac cath	227	Include all
		228	Include all
S	Other cardiothoracic procedures	229	Include all
J	Other cardiothoracic procedures	230	Include all
		231	Include all
S	Coronary bypass w PTCA		
=	7 71 -	232	Include all

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Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
S	Caranany hypana w cardina aath	233	Include all
3	Coronary bypass w cardiac cath	234	Include all
S	Coronary bypass w/o cardiac cath	235	Include all
3	Colonary bypass w/o cardiac cath	236	Include all
	Amputation for circ sys disorders exc upper limb &	239	Include all
S	toe	240	Include all
	loe	241	Include all
		242	Include all
S	Permanent cardiac pacemaker implant	243	Include all
		244	Include all
S	AICD generator procedures	245	Include all
		246	Include all
S	Perc cardiovasc proc w drug-eluting stent	247	Include all
		248	Include all
		249	Include all
S	Perc cardiovasc proc w non-drug-eluting stent	250	Include all
		251	Include all
		252	Include all
S	Other vascular procedures	253	Include all
	·	254	Include all
	Upper limb & toe amputation for circ system disorders	255	Include all
S		256	Include all
		257	Include all
		258	Include all
S	Cardiac pacemaker device replacement	259	Include all
		260	Include all
S	Cardiac pacemaker revision except device	261	Include all
	replacement	262	Include all
S	Vein ligation & stripping	263	Include all
S	Other circulatory system O.R. procedures	264	Include all
S	AICD lead procedures	265	Include all
	•	266	Include all
S	Endovascular Cardiac Valve Replacement	267	Include all
	Aortic and heart assist procedures except pulsation	268	Include all
S	balloon	269	Include all
	Salicon	270	Include all
S	Other major cardiovascular procedures	271	Include all
	Outer major cardiovascular procedures	272	Include all
		273	Include all
S	Percutaneous intracardiac procedures	274	Include all
		280	Include all
M	Acute myocardial infarction, discharged alive	281	Include all
141	Acute myocardial infarction, discharged alive	282	Include all
		283	Include all
M	Acute myocardial infarction, expired	284	Include all
IVI	Acute myocardiai infarction, expired	285	
		Z00	Include all

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		iics (co	- ,
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
М	Circulatory disorders except AMI, w card cath	286	Include all
IVI	Circulatory disorders except Aivir, w card cath	287	Include all
		288	Include all
М	Acute & subacute endocarditis	289	Include all
		290	Include all
		291	Include all
М	Heart failure & shock	292	Include all
		293	Include all
M	De an cosin de anada and and and and and and and and a	294	Include all
М	Deep vein thrombophlebitis	295	Include all
		296	Include all
М	Cardiac arrest, unexplained	297	Include all
		298	Include all
		299	Include all
М	Peripheral vascular disorders	300	Include all
"	Tomphoral vaccalar alcoració	301	Include all
		302	Include all
М	Atherosclerosis	303	Include all
		304	Include all
М	Hypertension	305	Include all
		306	Include all
M	Cardiac congenital & valvular disorders	307	Include all
	<u> </u>	308	Include all
М	Cardiae arrhythmia 9 canduction disarders	309	
IVI	Cardiac arrhythmia & conduction disorders		Include all
N4	Australia	310	Include all
M	Angina pectoris	311	Include all
M	Syncope & collapse	312	Include all
M	Chest pain	313	Include all
l		314	Include all
М	Other circulatory system diagnoses	315	Include all
		316	Include all
		326	Include all
S	Stomach, esophageal & duodenal proc	327	Include all
		328	Include all
		329	Include all
S	Major small & large bowel procedures	330	Include all
		331	Include all
		332	Include all
S	Rectal resection	333	Include all
		334	Include all
		335	Include all
S	Peritoneal adhesiolysis	336	Include all
	,	337	Include all
		338	Include all
S	Appendectomy w complicated principal diag	339	Include all
l	Appoindedicing w complicated principal diag	340	Include all
	<u> </u>	J+0	molado all

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	Geriatrics (cont.)					
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10			
		341	Include all			
S	Appendectomy w/o complicated principal diag	342	Include all			
		343	Include all			
		344	Include all			
S	Minor small & large bowel procedures	345	Include all			
	9 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 -	346	Include all			
		347	Include all			
S	Anal & stomal procedures	348	Include all			
	, and of storing, processing	349	Include all			
		350	Include all			
S	Inguinal & femoral hernia procedures	351	Include all			
Ü	Inguinar a formeral florina procedures	352	Include all			
		353	Include all			
S	Hernia procedures except inguinal & femoral	354	Include all			
	Troma procedures except inguinar a temoral	355	Include all			
		356	Include all			
S	Other digestive system O.R. procedures	357	Include all			
S	Other digestive system O.K. procedures	358				
		368	Include all Include all			
N4	Major esophageal disorders					
M		369	Include all			
		370	Include all			
١,,	Major gastrointestinal disorders & peritoneal	371	Include all			
M	infections	372	Include all			
		373	Include all			
		374	Include all			
M	Digestive malignancy	375	Include all			
		376	Include all			
		377	Include all			
M	G.I. hemorrhage	378	Include all			
		379	Include all			
		380	Include all			
M	Complicated peptic ulcer	381	Include all			
		382	Include all			
М	Uncomplicated peptic ulcer	383	Include all			
IVI	Oncomplicated peptic dicer	384	Include all			
		385	Include all			
М	Inflammatory bowel disease	386	Include all			
	,	387	Include all			
		388	Include all			
М	G.I. obstruction	389	Include all			
		390	Include all			
		391	Include all			
M	Esophagitis, gastroent & misc digest disorders	392	Include all			
		393	Include all			
M	Other digestive system diagnoses	394	Include all			
IVI	Other digestive system diagnoses	395	Include all			
I		393	l iliciane all			

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Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
		405	Include all
S	Pancreas, liver & shunt procedures	406	Include all
	·	407	Include all
	D'' - test test t	408	Include all
S	Biliary tract proc except only cholecyst w or w/o	409	Include all
	c.d.e.	410	Include all
		411	Include all
S	Cholecystectomy w c.d.e.	412	Include all
	, ,	413	Include all
		414	Include all
S	Cholecystectomy except by laparoscope w/o c.d.e.	415	Include all
		416	Include all
		417	Include all
S	Laparoscopic cholecystectomy w/o c.d.e.	418	Include all
Ŭ	Laparoccopic choicely stockerny with c.a.c.	419	Include all
		420	Include all
S	Hepatobiliary diagnostic procedures	421	Include all
	Tropatobiliary diagnostic procedures	422	Include all
		423	Include all
S	Other hepatobiliary or pancreas O.R. procedures	424	Include all
3		425	Include all
		432	Include all
M	Cirrhagia & glashalia hanatitia	433	Include all
IVI	Cirrhosis & alcoholic hepatitis	434	Include all
		435	Include all
M	Maliananay of hanatahiliany ayatam ar nanaraga	436	
IVI	Malignancy of hepatobiliary system or pancreas	430	Include all
			Include all
	Discordance of a superior supe	438	Include all
M	Disorders of pancreas except malignancy	439	Include all
		440	Include all
	B	441	Include all
М	Disorders of liver except malig,cirr,alc hepa	442	Include all
		443	Include all
	5	444	Include all
M	Disorders of the biliary tract	445	Include all
		446	Include all
		453	Include all
S	Combined anterior/posterior spinal fusion	454	Include all
		455	Include all
	Spinal fus exc cerv w spinal curv/malig/infec or 9+	456	Include all
S	fus	457	Include all
	140	458	Include all
S	Spinal fusion except cervical	459	Include all
J	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	460	Include all
S	Bilateral or multiple major joint procs of lower	461	Include all
٥	extremity	462	Include all

T8021 (central-line-associated bloodstream infections)

<sup>•</sup> T8351 (catheter-associated urinary tract infections)

	deriatives (cont.)				
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10		
	Wad debrid 9 also gett ave hand for muscula cons	463	Include all		
S	Wnd debrid & skn grft exc hand, for musculo-conn tiss dis	464	Include all		
	liss dis	465	Include all		
		466	Include all		
S	Revision of hip or knee replacement	467	Include all		
	·	468	Include all		
S	Major Hip and Knee Joint Replacement or Reattachment of Lower Extremity with MCC or Total Ankle Replacement	469	Include all		
		471	Include all		
S	Cervical spinal fusion	472	Include all		
	•	473	Include all		
	A ( C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C	474	Include all		
S	Amputation for musculoskeletal sys & conn tissue	475	Include all		
	dis	476	Include all		
		477	Include all		
S	Biopsies of musculoskeletal system & connective	478	Include all		
	tissue	479	Include all		
	Hip & femur procedures except major joint	480	Include all		
S		481	Include all		
		482	Include all		
S	Major joint & limb reattachment proc of upper extremity	483	Include all		
		485	Include all		
S	Knee procedures w pdx of infection	486	Include all		
	·	487	Include all		
0	Variation of the state of the state of	488	Include all		
S	Knee procedures w/o pdx of infection	489	Include all		
		492	Include all		
S	Lower extrem & humer proc except hip,foot,femur	493	Include all		
		494	Include all		
	1 1	495	Include all		
S	Local excision & removal int fix devices exc hip &	496	Include all		
	femur	497	Include all		
C	Local excision & removal int fix devices of hip &	498	Include all		
S	femur	499	Include all		
		500	Include all		
S	Soft tissue procedures	501	Include all		
	'	502	Include all		
		503	Include all		
S	Foot procedures	504	Include all		
	·	505	Include all		
S	Major thumb or joint procedures	506	Include all		
		507	Include all		
S	Major shoulder or elbow joint procedures	508	Include all		
S	Arthroscopy	509			
S	Arthroscopy	509	Include all		

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Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
	Shoulder,elbow or forearm proc,exc major joint	510	Include all
S	proc	511	Include all
	'	512	Include all
S	Hand or wrist proc, except major thumb or joint	513	Include all
	proc	514	Include all
		515	Include all
S	Other musculoskelet sys & conn tiss O.R. proc	516	Include all
		517	Include all
0	Bod ANGLES OF STATE OF	518	Include all
S	Back & Neck Procedures Except Spinal Fusion	519	Include all
		520 533	Include all
M	Fractures of femur	534	
		535	Include all
M	Fractures of hip & pelvis	536	Include all
		537	Include all
M	Sprains, strains, & dislocations of hip, pelvis & thigh	538	Include all
		539	Include all
М	Osteomyelitis	540	Include all
		541	Include all
	Pathological fractures & musculoskelet & conn tiss malig	542	Include all
М		543	Include all
		544	Include all
		545	Include all
M	Connective tissue disorders	546	Include all
		547	Include all
		548	Include all
M	Septic arthritis	549	Include all
		550	Include all
M	Medical back problems	551	Include all
IVI	Wedical back problems	552	Include all
М	Bone diseases & arthropathies	553	Include all
IVI	•	554	Include all
М	Signs & symptoms of musculoskeletal system &	555	Include all
	conn tissue	556	Include all
M	Tendonitis, myositis & bursitis	557	Include all
		558	Include all
l	Aftercare, musculoskeletal system & connective	559	Include all
M	tissue	560	Include all
		561	Include all
М	Fx, sprn, strn & disl except femur, hip, pelvis &	562	Include all
	thigh	563	Include all
N 4	Other musculoskeletal sys & connective tissue	564	Include all
M	diagnoses	565	Include all
		566	Include all

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	Geriati		- ,
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
		570	Include all
S	Skin debridement	571	Include all
		572	Include all
		573	Include all
S	Skin graft for skin ulcer or cellulitis	574	Include all
		575	Include all
		576	Include all
S	Skin graft except for skin ulcer or cellulitis	577	Include all
		578	Include all
		579	Include all
S	Other skin, subcut tiss & breast proc	580	Include all
	μ	581	Include all
_		582	Include all
S	Mastectomy for malignancy	583	Include all
	Breast biopsy, local excision & other breast	584	Include all
S	procedures	585	Include all
	procedures	592	Include all
M	Skin ulcers	593	Include all
IVI	Skin dicers	594	Include all
		595	Include all
M	Major skin disorders	596	Include all
	,	597	Include all
	Malianant broast disardors		
M	Malignant breast disorders	598	Include all
		599	Include all
М	Non-malignant breast disorders	600	Include all
		601	Include all
М	Cellulitis	602	Include all
		603	Include all
М	Trauma to the skin, subcut tiss & breast	604	Include all
171	Tradita to the skin, subsat ties a broast	605	Include all
М	Minor skin disorders	606	Include all
141	Willion Skill disorders	607	Include all
S	Adrenal & pituitary procedures	614	Include all
0	Adicinal & pitalitary procedures	615	Include all
	Amputat of lower limb for endocrine,nutrit,&	616	Include all
S	metabol dis	617	Include all
	Interapol dis	618	Include all
		619	Include all
S	O.R. procedures for obesity	620	Include all
		621	Include all
	01. 6.0 111.116	622	Include all
S	Skin grafts & wound debrid for endoc, nutrit &	623	Include all
	metab dis	624	Include all
		625	Include all
S	Thyroid, parathyroid & thyroglossal procedures	626	Include all
	Thyroid, parathyroid & thyroglossal procedures	627	Include all
		UZI	IIIUUUC all

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Madiaal/		MC	,
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
		628	Include all
S	Other endocrine, nutrit & metab O.R. proc	629	Include all
		630	Include all
		637	Include all
M	Diabetes	638	Include all
		639	Include all
M	Misc disorders of nutrition, metabolism,	640	Include all
IVI	fluids/electrolyes	641	Include all
M	Inborn and other disorders of metabolism	642	Include all
		643	Include all
M	Endocrine disorders	644	Include all
		645	Include all
S	Kidney transplant	652	Include all
		653	Include all
S	Major bladder procedures	654	Include all
	mejor status, procedures	655	Include all
		656	Include all
S	Kidney & ureter procedures for neoplasm	657	Include all
Ŭ	Triding a dictor procedures for neoplasin	658	Include all
	Kidney & ureter procedures for non-neoplasm	659	Include all
S		660	Include all
3	Nulley & dieter procedures for non-neoplasm	661	Include all
		662	Include all
S	Minor bladder procedures	663	Include all
3	Minor bladder procedures	664	
		665	Include all
0	Description of the second		Include all
S	Prostatectomy	666	Include all
		667	Include all
		668	Include all
S	Transurethral procedures	669	Include all
		670	Include all
S	Urethral procedures	671	Include all
		672	Include all
		673	Include all
S	Other kidney & urinary tract procedures	674	Include all
		675	Include all
		682	Include all
М	Renal failure	683	Include all
		684	Include all
		686	Include all
M	Kidney & urinary tract neoplasms	687	Include all
	,	688	Include all
N.4	Kido ou O onio on too tief all a	689	Include all
М	Kidney & urinary tract infections	690	Include all

T8021 (central-line-associated bloodstream infections)

<sup>•</sup> T8351 (catheter-associated urinary tract infections)

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
M	Urinany atanaa w/a aaw lithatrinay	693	Include all
IVI	Urinary stones w/o esw lithotripsy	694	Include all
M	Kidney & urinary tract signs & symptoms	695	Include all
IVI	Ridney & diffiary tract signs & symptoms	696	Include all
М	Urethral stricture	697	Include all
		698	Include all
M	Other kidney & urinary tract diagnoses	699	Include all
		700	Include all
S	Major male pelvic procedures	707	Include all
3	I Major male pervic procedures	708	Include all
S	Penis procedures	709	Include all
3	Fellis procedures	710	Include all
S	Testes procedures	711	Include all
3	restes procedures	712	Include all
S	Transurathral praetateatomy	713	Include all
3	Transurethral prostatectomy	714	Include all
S	Other male reproductive system O.R. proc for	715	Include all
3	malignancy	716	Include all
S	Other male reproductive system O.R. proc exc	717	Include all
3	malignancy	718	Include all
	Malignancy, male reproductive system	722	Include all
M		723	Include all
		724	Include all
M	Daniera associatio humanius abu	725	Include all
M	Benign prostatic hypertrophy	726	Include all
NA	Inflammation of the majo remanductive eveters	727	Include all
M	Inflammation of the male reproductive system	728	Include all
M	Other weeks was advisting a vistage diagraph	729	Include all
M	Other male reproductive system diagnoses	730	Include all
S	Pelvic evisceration, rad hysterectomy & rad	734	Include all
8	vulvectomy	735	Include all
	Literine O adverse muce for evenine an adverse	736	Include all
S	Uterine & adnexa proc for ovarian or adnexal	737	Include all
	malignancy	738	Include all
		739	Include all
S	Uterine,adnexa proc for non-ovarian/adnexal malig	740	Include all
		741	Include all
C	Utorino 9 adnova prog for non malianona.	742	Include all
S	Uterine & adnexa proc for non-malignancy	743	Include all
C	D&C conjugation languages v. 9 tubel intermediate	744	Include all
S	D&C, conization, laparoscopy & tubal interruption	745	Include all
C	Vaging consist 9 vulsa precedures	746	Include all
S	Vagina, cervix & vulva procedures	747	Include all
S	Female reproductive system reconstructive procedures	748	Include all
c	Other female reproductive system O.B. precedures	749	Include all
S	Other female reproductive system O.R. procedures	750	Include all

- T8021 (central-line-associated bloodstream infections)
- T8351 (catheter-associated urinary tract infections)

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
		754	Include all
M	Malignancy, female reproductive system	755	Include all
		756	Include all
		757	Include all
M	Infections, female reproductive system	758	Include all
		759	Include all
M	Menstrual & other female reproductive system	760	Include all
IVI	disorders	761	Include all
		799	Include all
S	Splenectomy	800	Include all
		801	Include all
	Other O.D. prop of the blood & blood forming	802	Include all
S	Other O.R. proc of the blood & blood forming	803	Include all
	organs	804	
	Major homotal/immun diag ava siakla sall ariais ?	808	Include all
M	Major hematol/immun diag exc sickle cell crisis &	809	Include all
	coagul	810	Include all
M	Red blood cell disorders	811	Include all
IVI	Red blood cell disorders	812	Include all
M	Coagulation disorders	813	Include all
		814 li	Include all
M	Reticuloendothelial & immunity disorders	815	Include all
		816	Include all
		820	Include all
S	Lymphoma & leukemia w major O.R. procedure	821	Include all
		822	Include all
		823	Include all
S	Lymphoma & non-acute leukemia w other O.R.	824	Include all
	proc	825	Include all
	Muslamedif diseard on poorly different was in D	826	Include all
S	Myeloprolif disord or poorly diff neopl w maj O.R.	827	Include all
	proc	828	Include all
S	Myeloprolif disord or poorly diff neopl w other O.R.	829	Include all
<u> </u>	proc	830	Include all
		834	Include all
M	Acute leukemia w/o major O.R. procedure	835	Include all
		836	Include all
	Chama w gouta laukamia aa adu ay w high daa-	837	Include all
M	Chemo w acute leukemia as sdx or w high dose	838	Include all
	chemo agent	839	Include all
		840	Include all
M	Lymphoma & non-acute leukemia	841	Include all
		842	Include all
		843	Include all
M	Other myeloprolif dis or poorly diff neopl diag	844	Include all
		845	Include all

- T8021 (central-line-associated bloodstream infections)
- T8351 (catheter-associated urinary tract infections)

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
	Chemotherapy w/o acute leukemia as secondary	846	Include all
M	diagnosis	847	Include all
	diagnosis	848	Include all
М	Radiotherapy	849	Include all
		853	Include all
S	Infectious & parasitic diseases w O.R. procedure	854	Include all
		855	Include all
	Postoperative or post-traumatic infections w O.R.	856	Include all
S	proc	857	Include all
	proc	858	Include all
М	Postoperative & post-traumatic infections	862	Include all
IVI	r ostoperative & post-traumatic infections	863	Include all
М	Fever of unknown origin	864	Include all
М	Fever	865	Include all
М	Viral illness	866	Include all
		867	Include all
M	Other infectious & parasitic diseases diagnoses	868	Include all
		869	Include all
		870	Include all
M	Septicemia or severe sepsis w MV 96+ hours	871	Include all
		872	Include all
S	O.R. procedure w principal diagnoses of mental illness	876	Include all
М	Acute adjustment reaction & psychosocial dysfunction	880	Include all
М	Depressive neuroses	881	Include all
М	Neuroses except depressive	882	Include all
М	Disorders of personality & impulse control	883	Include all
М	Organic disturbances & mental retardation	884	Include all
М	Psychoses	885	Include all
М	Behavioral & developmental disorders	886	Include all
М	Other mental disorder diagnoses	887	Include all
		895	Include all
М	Alcohol/drug abuse or dependence w rehabilitation	896	Include all
	therapy	897	Include all
		901	Include all
S	Wound debridements for injuries	902	Include all
	<b>,</b>	903	Include all
_		904	Include all
S	Skin grafts for injuries	905	Include all
S	Hand procedures for injuries	906	Include all
-	, , ,	907	Include all
S	Other O.R. procedures for injuries	908	Include all
		909	Include all
		913	Include all
M	Traumatic injury	914	Include all

- T8021 (central-line-associated bloodstream infections)
- T8351 (catheter-associated urinary tract infections)

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
М	Allergic reactions	915	Include all
IVI	Allergic reactions	916	Include all
М	Poisoning & toxic effects of drugs	917	Include all
IVI	1 disorning & toxic criccis of drugs	918	Include all
		919	Include all
М	Complications of treatment	920	Include all
		921	Include all
М	Other injury, poisoning & toxic effect diag	922	Include all
		923	Include all
S	Extensive burns or full thickness burns w MV 96+ hrs w skin graft	927	Include all
S	Full thickness burn w skin graft or inhal inj	928	Include all
		929	Include all
М	Extensive burns or full thickness burns w MV 96+ hrs w/o skin graft	933	Include all
М	Full thickness burn w/o skin grft or inhal inj	934	Include all
M	Non-extensive burns	935	Include all
	O.D. prograw diagnosco of other contact w health	939	Include all
S	O.R. proc w diagnoses of other contact w health services	940	Include all
	Services	941	Include all
М	Rehabilitation	945	Include all
IVI	Renabilitation	946	Include all
М	Signs & symptoms	947	Include all
101	Olgina & Symptoma	948	Include all
М	Aftercare	949	Include all
		950	Include all
M	Other factors influencing health status	951	Include all
S	Craniotomy for multiple significant trauma	955	Include all
S	Limb reattachment, hip & femur proc for multiple significant trauma	956	Include all
	Other O.R. procedures for multiple significant	957	Include all
S	trauma	958	Include all
	taama	959	Include all
		963	Include all
M	Other multiple significant trauma	964	Include all
_		965	Include all
S	HIV w extensive O.R. procedure	969	Include all
	The transfer of the procedure	970	Include all
		974	Include all
М	HIV w major related condition	975	Include all
		976	Include all
M	HIV w or w/o other related condition	977	Include all
	Extensive O.R. procedure unrelated to principal	981	Include all
S	diagnosis	982	Include all
	g	983	Include all

T8021 (central-line-associated bloodstream infections)

<sup>•</sup> T8351 (catheter-associated urinary tract infections)

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
	Prostatio O.B. proceedure uprolated to principal	984	Include all
S	Prostatic O.R. procedure unrelated to principal diagnosis	985	Include all
		986	Include all
	Non-extensive O.R. proc unrelated to principal	987	Include all
S	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	988	Include all
	diagnosis	989	Include all

#### **Neurology & Neurosurgery**

Medical/	DRG Title	MS-	
Surgical	DRG Title	DRG	
	Intracranial vascular procedures w PDX hemorrhage	020	Include all
S		021	Include all
		022	Include all
S	Cranio w major dev impl/acute complex CNS PDX	023	Include all
3		024	Include all
		025	Include all
S	Craniotomy & endovascular intracranial procedures	026	Include all
		027	Include all
		031	Include all
S	Ventricular shunt procedures	032	Include all
		033	Include all
		034	Include all
S	Carotid artery stent procedure	035	Include all
		036	Include all
	Extracranial procedures	037	Include all
S		038	Include all
		039	Include all
	Periph & cranial nerve & other nerv syst proc	040	Include all
S		041	Include all
		042	Include all
M	Chinal digardara & injurios	052	Include all
IVI	Spinal disorders & injuries	053	Include all
M	Nervous system neoplasms	054	Include all
IVI	Nervous system neoplasms	055	Include all
M	Degenerative nervous system disorders	056	Include all
IVI	Degenerative hervous system disorders	057	Include all
		058	Include all
M	Multiple sclerosis & cerebellar ataxia	059	Include all
		060	Include all
		061	Include all
M	Acute ischemic stroke w use of thrombolytic agent	062	Include all
		063	Include all
		064	Include all
M	Intracranial hemorrhage or cerebral infarction	065	Include all
	_	066	Include all
M	Nananacifia ava 9 pragarahral applyaion ::/a infant	067	Include all
M	Nonspecific cva & precerebral occlusion w/o infarct	068	Include all
M	Transient ischemia	069	Include all

- T8021 (central-line-associated bloodstream infections)
- T8351 (catheter-associated urinary tract infections)

## Neurology & Neurosurgery (cont.)

rearriogy a rearrosargery (cont.)			
DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10	
Name of the second of the second of	070	Include all	
Nonspecific cerebrovascular disorders	071	Include all	
Crevial 8 marinhard name disarders	073	Include all	
Craniai & peripheral nerve disorders	074	Include all	
Viral maningitie	075	Include all	
Virai meningilis	076	Include all	
	077	Include all	
Hypertensive encephalopathy	078	Include all	
	079	Include all	
Northway madia at years	080	Include all	
Nontraumatic stupor & coma	081	Include all	
Traumatic stupor & coma, coma >1 hr	082	Include all	
	083	Include all	
	084	Include all	
	085	Include all	
Traumatic stupor & coma, coma <1 hr	086	Include all	
	087	Include all	
	091	Include all	
Other disorders of nervous system	092	Include all	
	093	Include all	
	094	Include all	
Bacterial & tuberculous infections of nervous system	095	Include all	
	096	Include all	
	097	Include all	
	098	Include all	
meningitis	099	Include all	
Seizures w MCC	100	Include all	
Craniotomy for multiple significant trauma	955	Include all	
	Nonspecific cerebrovascular disorders  Cranial & peripheral nerve disorders  Viral meningitis  Hypertensive encephalopathy  Nontraumatic stupor & coma  Traumatic stupor & coma, coma >1 hr  Traumatic stupor & coma, coma <1 hr  Other disorders of nervous system  Bacterial & tuberculous infections of nervous system  Non-bacterial infect of nervous sys exc viral meningitis	DRG Title         MS-DRG           Nonspecific cerebrovascular disorders         070           Cranial & peripheral nerve disorders         073           Viral meningitis         075           Hypertensive encephalopathy         078           Nontraumatic stupor & coma         080           Nontraumatic stupor & coma, coma >1 hr         082           Traumatic stupor & coma, coma >1 hr         085           Traumatic stupor & coma, coma <1 hr	

## **Obstetrics & Gynecology**

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
S	Pelvic evisceration, rad hysterectomy & rad	734	Include all
3	vulvectomy	735	Include all
	Uterine & adnexa proc for ovarian or adnexal	736	Include all
S	malignancy	737	Include all
	mangriancy	738	Include all
		739	Include all
S	Uterine,adnexa proc for non-ovarian/adnexal malig	740	Include all
		741	Include all
S	Uterine & adnexa proc for non-malignancy	742	Include all
	Oterine & dunexa proc for non-mangriancy	743	Include all
S	Vagina, cervix & vulva procedures	746	Include all
	vagina, cervix a valva procedures	747	Include all
S	Other female reproductive system O.R. procedures	749	Include all
	Other lemaic reproductive system O.N. procedures	750	Include all
		754	Include all
M	Malignancy, female reproductive system	755	Include all
		756	Include all
		757	Include all
M	Infections, female reproductive system	758	Include all
		759	Include all
М	Menstrual & other female reproductive system	760	Include all
IVI	disorders	761	Include all

#### Orthopedics\*

	Orthopedics*				
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10		
S	Spinal procedures	028	Exclude procedures: 001U074, 001U076, 001U077, 001U079, 001U0J4, 001U0J6, 001U0J7, 001U0J9, 001U0K4, 001U0K6, 001U0K7, 001U0J9, 001U0K4, 001U0K6, 001U0K7, 001U0K9, 001U3J7, 001UJ3P, 001UJ3F, 001UJ3K6, 001UJ3J6, 001UJ3J7, 001UJ3P, 001UJ3K6, 001UJ3K7, 001UJ3K9, 005T0ZZ, 005T3ZZ, 005T4ZZ, 005W0ZZ, 005W3ZZ, 005W4ZZ, 005W0ZZ, 005W3ZZ, 005W4ZZ, 005W0ZZ, 005X3ZZ, 005X4ZZ, 005Y0ZZ, 005X3ZZ, 005X4ZZ, 005Y0ZZ, 005Y3ZZ, 005Y4ZZ, 008W0ZZ, 008W3ZZ, 008W4ZZ, 009T0Z, 009T0ZX, 009T0ZX, 009T0ZZ, 009T0ZZ, 009T0ZZ, 009T0ZX, 009T0ZZ, 009W0ZX, 009W0ZZ, 009W0ZX, 009W0ZZ, 009W0ZX, 009W0ZZ, 009W0ZX, 009W0ZZ, 009W0ZZ, 009W0ZZ, 009W0ZZ, 009Y0ZZ, 00BY3ZZ, 00BY3ZZ, 00BW3ZZ, 00BW3ZZ, 00BW3ZZ, 00BW3ZZ, 00BW3ZZ, 00BW3ZZ, 00BW3ZZ, 00BY0ZZ, 00BY0ZZ, 00BY0ZZ, 00BY0ZZ, 00BY0ZZ, 00BY0ZZ, 00BY0ZZ, 00CY0ZZ, 00CY0		

Medical/	Medical/ MS- TOD 10			
Surgical	DRG Title	DRG		
S	Spinal procedures (cont.)	028 (cont.)	0RBA4ZZ, 0SB00ZZ, 0SB03ZZ, 0SB04ZZ, 0SB30ZZ, 0SB33ZZ, 0SB34ZZ, 0SB50ZZ, 0SB53ZZ, 0SB54ZZ, 0SB60ZZ, 0SB63ZZ, 0SB64ZZ, 0SB70ZZ, 0SB73ZZ, 0SB74ZZ, 0SB80ZZ, 0SB83ZZ, 0SB84ZZ	
		029	See MS-DRG 028	
		030	See MS-DRG 028	
_		453	Include all	
S	Combined anterior/posterior spinal fusion	454	Include all	
		455	Include all	
S	Spinal fus exc cerv w spinal curv/malig/infec or 9+	456 457	Include all	
3	fus	458	Include all	
		459	Include all	
S	Spinal fusion except cervical	460	Include all	
	Bilateral or multiple major joint procs of lower	461	Include all	
S	extremity	462	Include all	
S	Wound Debridement and Skin Graft Except Hand, for Musculo-Connective Tissue Disease	463	Include procedures: 0SP909Z, 0SP90JZ, 0SP93JZ, 0SP94JZ, 0SPA0JZ, 0SPA3JZ, 0SPA4JZ, 0SPB09Z, 0SPB0JZ, 0SPB3JZ, 0SPB4JZ, 0SPB4JZ, 0SPC0JC, 0SPC0JZ, 0SPC3JC, 0SPC3JZ, 0SPC4JC, 0SPC4JZ, 0SPD09Z, 0SPD0JC, 0SPD0JZ, 0SPD3JC, 0SPD3JZ, 0SPD4JC, 0SPD4JZ, 0SPE0JZ, 0SPE3JZ, 0SPE4JZ, 0SPR0JZ, 0SPR3JZ, 0SPR4JZ, 0SPS0JZ, 0SPS3JZ, 0SPS4JZ, 0SPT0JZ, 0SPT3JZ, 0SPT4JZ, 0SPU0JZ, 0SPU3JZ, 0SPU4JZ, 0SPW0JZ, 0SPW3JZ, 0SPW4JZ, 0SPW0JZ, 0SPW3JZ, 0SPW4JZ	
		464	See MS-DRG 463	
		465	See MS-DRG 463	
		466	Include all	
S	Revision of hip or knee replacement	467	Include all	
S	Major joint replacement or reattachment of lower extremity	468 469	Include all Include all	
S	Cervical spinal fusion	471 472 473	Include all Include all Include all	
S	Hip & femur procedures except major joint	480 481 482	Include all Include all Include all	
S	Major joint & limb reattachment proc of upper extremity	483	Include all	

<sup>\*</sup>Exclude principle diagnosis of metastatic cancer for all except MS-DRGs 542-544 or DRGs 456-458: C770, C771, C772, C773, C774, C775, C778, C779, C7800, C7801, C7802, C781, C782, C7830, C7839, C784, C785, C786, C787, C7880, C7889, C7900, C7901, C7902, C7910, C7911, C7919, C792, C7931, C7932, C7940, C7949, C7951, C7952, C7960, C7961, C7962, C7963, C7970, C7971, C7972, C7981, C7982, C7989, C799, C7800, C7801, C7802, C7803, C7804, C7809, C781, C788, C800.

Medical/		MS-	,
Surgical	DRG Title	DRG	ICD-10
		485	Include all
S	Knee procedures w pdx of infection	486	Include all
		487	Include all
		492	Include all
S	Lower extrem & humer proc except hip,foot,femur	493	Include all
		494	Include all
S	Local excision & removal int fix devices exc hip &	495 496	Include all
3	femur	490	Include all
	Local excision & removal int fix devices of hip &	498	Include all
S	femur	499	Include all
		500	Include all
S	Soft tissue procedures	501	Include all
		503	Include all
S	Foot procedures	504	Include all
		505	Include all
S	Major thumb or joint procedures	506	Include all
S	Major shoulder or elbow joint procedures	507	Include all
S	Major Shoulder of elbow joint procedures	508	Include all
S	Other musculoskelet sys & conn tiss O.R. proc	515	OMM14ZZ, OMM20ZZ, OMM24ZZ, OMM30ZZ, OMM34ZZ, OMM40ZZ, OMM44ZZ, OMM50ZZ, OMM54ZZ, OMM60ZZ, OMM60ZZ, OMM64ZZ, OMM70ZZ, OMM74ZZ, OMM80ZZ, OMM84ZZ, OMM80ZZ, OMM84ZZ, OMM90ZZ, OMM90ZZ, OMMD0ZZ, OMMD4ZZ, OMMF0ZZ, OMMF4ZZ, OMMC4ZZ, OMMC4ZZ, OMMC4ZZ, OMMC4ZZ, OMMC4ZZ, OMMC4ZZ, OMMH0ZZ, OMMH4ZZ, OMMJ0ZZ, OMMJ4ZZ, OMMK0ZZ, OMMK4ZZ, OMML0ZZ, OMML4ZZ, OMMM0ZZ, OMMM4ZZ, OMMM0ZZ, OMMR4ZZ, OMMR0ZZ, OMMR4ZZ, OMMR0ZZ, OMMR4ZZ, OMMR0ZZ, OMMR4ZZ, OMMS0ZZ, OMMS4ZZ, OMMC0ZZ, OMMC4ZZ, OMMC0ZZ, OMMC4ZZ, OMMC0ZZ, OMMC4ZZ, OMMC0ZZ, OMMC4ZZ, OMMC0ZZ, OMMC4ZZ, OMMC0ZZ, OMM

<sup>\*</sup>Exclude principle diagnosis of metastatic cancer for all except MS-DRGs 542-544 or DRGs 456-458: C770, C771, C772, C773, C774, C775, C778, C779, C7800, C7801, C7802, C781, C782, C7830, C7839, C784, C785, C786, C787, C7880, C7889, C7900, C7901, C7902, C7910, C7911, C7919, C792, C7931, C7932, C7940, C7949, C7951, C7952, C7960, C7961, C7962, C7963, C7970, C7971, C7972, C7981, C7982, C7989, C799, C7800, C7801, C7802, C7803, C7804, C7809, C781, C788, C800.

Mad'!	Orthopedics (cont.)*				
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10		
S	Other musculoskelet sys & conn tiss O.R. proc (cont.)	515 (cont.)	OMUJOTZ, OMUJOJZ, OMUJOKZ, OMJOJZ, OMROJZ, OMJOJZ, OMROJZ, OMJOJZ, OMROJZ, OMJOJZ, OMROJZ, OMROJZ, OMROJZ, OMNOJZ, OMROJZ, OMSOJZ, OM		

<sup>\*</sup>Exclude principle diagnosis of metastatic cancer for all except MS-DRGs 542-544 or DRGs 456-458: C770, C771, C772, C773, C774, C775, C778, C779, C7800, C7801, C7802, C781, C782, C7830, C7839, C784, C785, C786, C787, C7880, C7889, C7900, C7901, C7902, C7910, C7911, C7919, C792, C7931, C7932, C7940, C7949, C7951, C7952, C7960, C7961, C7962, C7963, C7970, C7971, C7972, C7981, C7982, C7989, C799, C7800, C7801, C7802, C7803, C7804, C7809, C781, C788, C800.

N4 1' 1 /	Ortnopedics (cont.)*					
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10			
	Other musculoskelet sys & conn tiss O.R. proc (cont.)	515 (cont.)	ONSRO5Z, ONSROZZ, ONSTO4Z, ONST05Z, ONST0ZZ, ONSV04Z, ONSV05Z, ONSV0ZZ, ONSV04Z, ONSX0ZZ, ONTF0ZZ, ONTF0ZZ, ONTF0ZZ, ONTH0ZZ, ONTJ0ZZ, ONTH0ZZ, ONTH0ZZ, ONTH0ZZ, ONTH0ZZ, ONTH0ZZ, ONTROZZ, ONUGAJZ, ONU			

<sup>\*</sup>Exclude principle diagnosis of metastatic cancer for all except MS-DRGs 542-544 or DRGs 456-458: C770, C771, C772, C773, C774, C775, C778, C779, C7800, C7801, C7802, C781, C782, C7830, C7839, C784, C785, C786, C787, C7880, C7889, C7900, C7901, C7902, C7910, C7911, C7919, C792, C7931, C7932, C7940, C7949, C7951, C7952, C7960, C7961, C7962, C7963, C7970, C7971, C7972, C7981, C7982, C7989, C799, C7800, C7801, C7802, C7803, C7804, C7809, C781, C788, C800.

	Orthopedics (cont.)*					
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10			
S	Other musculoskelet sys & conn tiss O.R. proc (cont.)	515 (cont.)	OPHS45Z, OPHT04Z, OPHT05Z, OPHT34Z, OPHT35Z, OPHT44Z, OPHT45Z, OPHV04Z, OPHV05Z, OPHV34Z, OPHV35Z, OPHV44Z, OPHV45Z, OPHV06Z, OPHV3MZ, OPHV35Z, OPN04ZZ, OPN04ZZ, OPN13ZZ, OPN14ZZ, OPN3ZZ, OPN04ZZ, OPN2ZZ, OPN3ZZ, OPN63ZZ, OPN63ZZ, OPN63ZZ, OPN63ZZ, OPN63ZZ, OPN63ZZ, OPN63ZZ, OPN63ZZ, OPN63ZZ, OPN6ZZ, OPN63ZZ, OPN8ZZ, OPNRZZ, OPNRZZ, OPNRZZ, OPNRZZ, OPNRZZ, OPN7ZZ, OPNZZZ,			

<sup>\*</sup>Exclude principle diagnosis of metastatic cancer for all except MS-DRGs 542-544 or DRGs 456-458: C770, C771, C772, C773, C774, C775, C778, C779, C7800, C7801, C7802, C781, C782, C7830, C7839, C784, C785, C786, C787, C7880, C7889, C7900, C7901, C7902, C7910, C7911, C7919, C792, C7931, C7932, C7940, C7949, C7951, C7952, C7960, C7961, C7962, C7963, C7970, C7971, C7972, C7981, C7982, C7989, C799, C7800, C7801, C7802, C7803, C7804, C7809, C781, C788, C800.

Madial	Orthopedics (cont.)*					
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10			
	Other musculoskelet sys & conn tiss O.R. proc (cont.)	515 (cont.)	OPS33ZZ, OPS43ZZ, OPS604Z, OPS50ZZ, OPS534Z, OPS644Z, OPS604Z, OPS60ZZ, OPS634Z, OPS644Z, OPS704Z, OPS70ZZ, OPS734Z, OPS74Z, OPS60ZZ, OPS634Z, OPS80ZZ, OPS834Z, OPS844Z, OPS90ZZ, OPS934Z, OPS94Z, OPS80ZZ, OPS83Z, OPS84Z, OPS80ZZ, OPS83Z, OPS84Z, OPS80ZZ, OPS83Z, OPS84Z, OPS80ZZ, OPS83Z, OPS83Z, OPS83Z, OPS84Z, OPSR4Z, OPS80ZZ, OPS85Z, OPS83Z, OPS83Z, OPS75Z, OPT70ZZ, OPT00ZZ, OPT10ZZ, OPT20ZZ, OPT50ZZ, OPT60ZZ, OPT70ZZ, OPT80ZZ, OPT90ZZ, OPT80ZZ, OPT60ZZ, OPT70ZZ, OPT00ZZ, OPU00XZ, OPU03Z, OQU03Z, OQ003ZZ, OQ80ZZ, OQC0ZZ,			

<sup>\*</sup>Exclude principle diagnosis of metastatic cancer for all except MS-DRGs 542-544 or DRGs 456-458: C770, C771, C772, C773, C774, C775, C778, C779, C7800, C7801, C7802, C781, C782, C7830, C7839, C784, C785, C786, C787, C7880, C7889, C7900, C7901, C7902, C7910, C7911, C7919, C792, C7931, C7932, C7940, C7949, C7951, C7952, C7960, C7961, C7962, C7963, C7970, C7971, C7972, C7981, C7982, C7989, C799, C7800, C7801, C7802, C7803, C7804, C7809, C781, C788, C800.

Madiant	orthopedics (cont.)					
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10			
S	Other musculoskelet sys & conn tiss O.R. proc (cont.)	515 (cont.)	OQCS0ZZ, 0QCS3ZZ, 0QCS4ZZ, 0QH004Z, 0QH1005Z, 0QH034Z, 0QH035Z, 0QH044Z, 0QH045Z, 0QH104Z, 0QH105Z, 0QH134Z, 0QH135Z, 0QH144Z, 0QH105Z, 0QH134Z, 0QH135Z, 0QH144Z, 0QH145Z, 0QH205Z, 0QH234Z, 0QH235Z, 0QH244Z, 0QH245Z, 0QH304Z, 0QH305Z, 0QH334Z, 0QH335Z, 0QH344Z, 0QH345Z, 0QH345Z, 0QH345Z, 0QH345Z, 0QH345Z, 0QH345Z, 0QH345Z, 0QH35Z, 0QH044Z, 0QH05Z, 0QH503Z, 0QH604Z, 0QH605Z, 0QH605Z, 0QH604Z, 0QH605Z, 0QH604Z, 0QH605Z, 0QH604Z, 0QH605Z, 0QHR04Z, 0QHR05Z, 0QHR34Z, 0QH835Z, 0QH844Z, 0QH845Z, 0QH845Z, 0QH845Z, 0QH804Z, 0QH805Z, 0QH804Z, 0QH805Z, 0QH804Z, 0QH83Z, 0QH834Z, 0QH35Z, 0QH844Z, 0QH85Z, 0QH844Z, 0QH805Z, 0QH804Z, 0QH805Z, 0QH804Z, 0QH83Z, 0QH834Z, 0QH33ZZ, 0QH844Z, 0QH805Z, 0QH804Z, 0QH805Z, 0QH804Z, 0QH32Z, 0QH32Z, 0QH32Z, 0QH32Z, 0QH00ZZ, 0QH32Z, 0QH00ZZ, 0QH32Z, 0QH00ZZ, 0QH32Z, 0QH00ZZ, 0QH3ZZ, 0QH0ZZ, 0QQ0ZZ, 0QQ0ZZ, 0QQ0ZZZ, 0QQ0ZZZ			

<sup>\*</sup>Exclude principle diagnosis of metastatic cancer for all except MS-DRGs 542-544 or DRGs 456-458: C770, C771, C772, C773, C774, C775, C778, C779, C7800, C7801, C7802, C781, C782, C7830, C7839, C784, C785, C786, C787, C7880, C7889, C7900, C7901, C7902, C7910, C7911, C7919, C792, C7931, C7932, C7940, C7949, C7951, C7952, C7960, C7961, C7962, C7963, C7970, C7971, C7972, C7981, C7982, C7989, C799, C7800, C7801, C7802, C7803, C7804, C7809, C781, C788, C800.

N41" 1 /	Ortnopedics (cont.)*					
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10			
S	Other musculoskelet sys & conn tiss O.R. proc (cont.)	515 (cont.)	OQTROZZ, OQTSOZZ, OQUO07Z, OQUO0JZ, OQUO0KZ, OQUO37Z, OQUO3JZ, OQUO3KZ, OQUO47Z, OQUO4JZ, OQUO4KZ, OQU107Z, OQU10JZ, OQU10KZ, OQU137Z, OQU13JZ, OQU13KZ, OQU14JZ, OQU14KZ, OQU13JZ, OQU13KZ, OQU20KZ, OQU237Z, OQU23JZ, OQU23KZ, OQU24TZ, OQU24JZ, OQU24KZ, OQU307Z, OQU30JZ, OQU30KZ, OQU33JZ, OQU33KZ, OQU30JZ, OQU30KZ, OQU337Z, OQU33JZ, OQU33KZ, OQU347Z, OQU34JZ, OQU34KZ, OQU407Z, OQU40JZ, OQU40KZ, OQU44ZZ, OQU447Z, OQU44JZ, OQU44ZZ, OQU44ZZ, OQU50KZ, OQU537Z, OQU53JZ, OQU50KZ, OQU537Z, OQU53JZ, OQU50KZ, OQU537Z, OQU53JZ, OQU50KZ, OQU54KZ, OQUG57Z, OQUS57Z, ORG50ZZ, ORG50ZZ, ORG900ZZ, ORG900ZZ, ORG50ZZ, ORG900ZZ, ORG900ZZ, ORG50ZZ, ORG50ZZ, ORC60ZZ, ORC63ZZ, ORC64ZZ, ORC53ZZ, ORC54ZZ, ORC60ZZ, ORC63ZZ, ORC64ZZ, ORC90ZZ, ORC93ZZ, ORC94ZZ, ORC63ZZ, ORC64ZZ, ORC90ZZ, ORC93ZZ, ORC94ZZ, ORC63ZZ, ORC64ZZ, ORC90ZZ, ORC93ZZ, ORC94ZZ, ORC66ZZ,			

Madissi	Orthopedics (cont.)*					
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10			
S	Other musculoskelet sys & conn tiss O.R. proc (cont.)	515 (cont.)	ORP44AZ, ORP44KZ, ORP500Z, ORP503Z, ORP507Z, ORP50KZ, ORP537Z, ORP537Z, ORP53KZ, ORP54UZ, ORP543Z, ORP54Z, ORP54Z, ORP654Z, ORP60AZ, ORP90KZ, ORP90AZ, ORP90AZ, ORP90KZ, ORP937Z, ORP937Z, ORP937Z, ORP90AZ, ORP90AZ, ORP90AZ, ORP90AZ, ORP90AZ, ORP90AZ, ORPA0AZ, ORPA0Z, ORP80AZ, ORPA0Z, ORPA0Z, ORP80AZ, ORPA0Z, ORP80AZ, ORQ80AZZ, ORQ0AZZ, ORQ0AZZ, ORQ0AZZ, ORQ0AZZ, ORQ0AZZ, ORQ0AZZ, ORQ3ZZ, ORX3ZZ, ORX3Z			

<sup>\*</sup>Exclude principle diagnosis of metastatic cancer for all except MS-DRGs 542-544 or DRGs 456-458: C770, C771, C772, C773, C774, C775, C778, C779, C7800, C7801, C7802, C781, C782, C7830, C7839, C784, C785, C786, C787, C7880, C7889, C7900, C7901, C7902, C7910, C7911, C7919, C792, C7931, C7932, C7940, C7949, C7951, C7952, C7960, C7961, C7962, C7963, C7970, C7971, C7972, C7981, C7982, C7989, C799, C7800, C7801, C7802, C7803, C7804, C7809, C781, C788, C800.

N4 11 - 1 - 1	Ortnopedics (cont.)*					
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10			
S	Other musculoskelet sys & conn tiss O.R. proc (cont.)	515 (cont.)	ORW14AZ, ORW14JZ, ORW14KZ, ORW300Z, ORW303Z, ORW307Z, ORW30KZ, ORW330Z, ORW333Z, ORW337Z, ORW34CZ, ORW34CZ, ORW34CZ, ORW34CZ, ORW40AZ, ORW43AZ, ORW50AZ, ORW50AZ, ORW50AZ, ORW50AZ, ORW50AZ, ORW50AZ, ORW50AZ, ORW53AZ, ORW53AZ, ORW53AZ, ORW53AZ, ORW53AZ, ORW53AZ, ORW53AZ, ORW63AZ, ORW60AZ, ORW60AZ, ORW60AZ, ORW60AZ, ORW60AZ, ORW60AZ, ORW60AZ, ORW60AZ, ORW63AZ, ORW64AZ, ORW93AZ, ORW94AZ, ORWA0AZ, ORW			

Madisal	Orthopedics (cont.)*					
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10			
S	Other musculoskelet sys & conn tiss O.R. proc (cont.)	515 (cont.)	OSP047Z, OSP04AZ, OSP04KZ, OSP200Z, OSP203Z, OSP207Z, OSP20KZ, OSP237Z, OSP23KZ, OSP24WZ, OSP24KZ, OSP24YZ, OSP23KZ, OSP23KZ, OSP24WZ, OSP24AZ, OSP24KZ, OSP23AZ, OSP30AZ, OSP30KZ, OSP30AZ, OSP30KZ, OSP30AZ, OSP30KZ, OSP30AZ, OSP30KZ, OSP30KZ, OSP30KZ, OSP33AZ, OSP33AZ, OSP33KZ, OSP30KZ, OSP30KZ, OSP34WZ, OSP34WZ, OSP34WZ, OSP34WZ, OSP34WZ, OSP40DZ, OSP40DZ, OSP40Z, OSP40Z, OSP40Z, OSP40Z, OSP40Z, OSP40Z, OSP50Z, OSP60Z, OSP63KZ, OSP60Z, OSP60Z, OSP60Z, OSP60Z, OSP60Z, OSP60Z, OSP60Z, OSP60Z, OSP60Z, OSP70Z, OSP80Z, OSP80			

Madical/	/ vs					
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10			
S	Other musculoskelet sys & conn tiss O.R. proc (cont.)	515 (cont.)	OSUFOKZ, OSUF37Z, OSUF3JZ, OSUF3KZ, OSUF47Z, OSUF4JZ, OSUF4KZ, OSUGOTZ, OSUGOJZ, OSUGOKZ, OSUGAYZ, OSUGAKZ, OSUGAKZ, OSUGAKZ, OSUGAKZ, OSUGAKZ, OSUGAKZ, OSUGAKZ, OSUGAKZ, OSUGAKZ, OSUHORZ, OSUHORZ, OSUHAKZ, OSUHAKZ, OSUHAKZ, OSUHAKZ, OSUJAKZ, OSUKOZ, OSUKOJZ, OSUKOKZ, OSUKAKZ, OSUKAKZ, OSUKOKZ, OSUKOKZ, OSUKAKZ, OSUKAKZ, OSUKAKZ, OSUKAKZ, OSULOKZ, OSULAKZ, OSULAKZ, OSULOKZ, OSULAKZ, OSULOKZ, OSULAKZ, OSULOKZ, OSULAKZ, OSULOKZ, OSULAKZ, OSULOKZ, OSULAKZ, OSULOKZ, OSUJAKZ, OSULAKZ, OSULOKZ, OSUJAKZ, OSUMAKZ, OSUMOYZ, OSUNOYZ, OSUNOYZ, OSUNOYZ, OSUNOYZ, OSUNOYZ, OSUNOYZ, OSUNOYZ, OSUNOYZ, OSUPOJZ, OSUPOKZ, OSUPAYZ, OSUQAJZ, OSUQAZ, OSUQAZ, OSUQAZ, OSUQAZ, OSUQAZ, OSUQAZ, OSUQAZ, OSUQAZ, OSUQAZ, OSUMOYZ, OSUMOYZ, OSUMOYZ, OSUMOYZ, OSUMOYZ, OSWOOXZ, OSWO			

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
S	Other musculoskelet sys & conn tiss O.R. proc (cont.)	515 (cont.)	OSW83KZ, OSW840Z, OSW843Z, OSW844Z, OSW847Z, OSW848Z, OSW84JZ, OSW84KZ, OSWF0JZ, OSWF3JZ, OSWF4JZ, OSWG0JZ, OSWG3JZ, OSWG4JZ, OSWH0JZ, OSWH3JZ, OSWH4JZ, OSWH0JZ, OSWH3JZ, OSWH3JZ, OSWK4JZ, OSWK0JZ, OSWK3JZ, OSWK4JZ, OSWL0JZ, OSWL3JZ, OSWL4JZ, OSWM0JZ, OSWM3JZ, OSWM4JZ, OSWN0JZ, OSWN3JZ, OSWN4JZ, OSWN0JZ, OSWN3JZ, OSWN4JZ, OSWP4JZ, OSWQ0JZ, OSWQ3JZ, OSWQ4JZ, OW0407Z, OW040JZ, OW040KZ, OW040ZZ, OW043ZZ, OW043ZZ, OW044ZZ, OW043ZZ, OW050ZZ, OW053ZZ, OW053ZZ, OW053JZ, OW053JZ, OW053ZZ, OW054ZZ, OW054ZZ, OW054ZZ, OW054ZZ, OW054ZZ, OW044KZ, OW044ZZ, OW044ZZ, OW044ZZ, OW054ZZ, OW054ZZ, OW050ZZ, OWM50ZZ, OWM50ZZ, OYM60ZZ, OYM90ZZ, OYM80ZZ, XKUC068, XKUD068, XNH6058, XNH6358, XNH7058, XNH7358
		516 517	See MS-DRG 515 See MS-DRG 515
		518	Include all
S	Back & Neck Procedures Except Spinal Fusion	519	Include all
	, .	520	Include all
М	Fractures of femur	533	Include all
		534 535	Include all
M	Fractures of hip & pelvis	536	Include all
		539	Include all
М	Osteomyelitis	540	Include all
	, ,	541	Include all

<sup>\*</sup>Exclude principle diagnosis of metastatic cancer for all except MS-DRGs 542-544 or DRGs 456-458: C770, C771, C772, C773, C774, C775, C778, C779, C7800, C7801, C7802, C781, C782, C7830, C7839, C784, C785, C786, C787, C7880, C7889, C7900, C7901, C7902, C7910, C7911, C7919, C792, C7931, C7932, C7940, C7949, C7951, C7952, C7960, C7961, C7962, C7963, C7970, C7971, C7972, C7981, C7982, C7989, C799, C7800, C7801, C7802, C7803, C7804, C7809, C781, C788, C800.

N4 11	Ortnopedics (cont.)*					
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10			
M	Pathological fractures & musculoskelet & conn tiss malig	542 543 544	Include diagnoses: M48.40XA, M48.41XA, M48.42XA, M48.43XA, M48.44XA, M48.45XA, M48.46XA, M48.47XA, M48.43XA, M48.45XA, M48.45XA, M48.55XA, M48.53XA, M48.55XA, M48.0022A, M80.022A, M80.022A, M80.031A, M80.031A, M80.032A, M80.039A, M80.051A, M80.052A, M80.059A, M80.061A, M80.062A, M80.069A, M80.071A, M80.072A, M80.079A, M80.08XA, M80.80XA, M80.811A, M80.812A, M80.819A, M80.821A, M80.82A, M80.829A, M80.831A, M80.832A, M80.839A, M80.851A, M80.852A, M80.859A, M80.859A, M80.861A, M80.862A, M80.869A, M80.871A, M80.872A, M80.879A, M80.88XA, M84.30XA, M84.311A, M84.312A, M84.319A, M84.331A, M84.332A, M84.333A, M84.334A, M84.339A, M84.331A, M84.332A, M84.333A, M84.334A, M84.354A, M84.354A, M84.355A, M84.356A, M84.356A, M84.356A, M84.351A, M84.352A, M84.353A, M84.359A, M84.361A, M84.362A, M84.363A, M84.353A, M84.359A, M84.371A, M84.372A, M84.373A, M84.374A, M84.375A, M84.371A, M84.472A, M84.411A, M84.412A, M84.419A, M84.421A, M84.422A, M84.439A, M84.441A, M84.442A, M84.443A, M84.445A, M84.451A, M84.477A, M84.477A, M84.473A, M84.473A, M84.474A, M84.475A, M84.477A, M84.477A, M84.477A, M84.473A, M84.474A, M84.475A, M84.475A, M84.477A, M84.477A, M84.477A, M84.477A, M84.477A, M84.475A, M84.477A, M84.477A, M84.475A, M84.453A, M84.553A, M84.663			
S	Limb reattachment, hip & femur proc for multiple	956	Include all			
5	significant trauma	900	include all			

<sup>\*</sup>Exclude principle diagnosis of metastatic cancer for all except MS-DRGs 542-544 or DRGs 456-458: C770, C771, C772, C773, C774, C775, C778, C779, C7800, C7801, C7802, C781, C782, C7830, C7839, C784, C785, C786, C787, C7880, C7889, C7900, C7901, C7902, C7910, C7911, C7919, C792, C7931, C7932, C7940, C7949, C7951, C7952, C7960, C7961, C7962, C7963, C7970, C7971, C7972, C7981, C7982, C7989, C799, C7800, C7801, C7802, C7803, C7804, C7809, C781, C788, C800.

## **Pulmonology & Lung Surgery**

	i dimonology & Lung Surgery				
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10		
S	ECMO or trach w MV 96+ hrs or PDX exc face, mouth & neck w maj O.R.	003	Include all		
S	Trach w MV 96+ hrs or PDX exc face, mouth & neck w/o maj O.R.	004	Include all		
S	Lung transplant	007	Include all		
S	Major chest procedures	163	Include procedures: 02JA0ZZ, 02JY0ZZ, 0B530ZZ, 0B533ZZ, 0B537ZZ, 0B538ZZ, 0B540ZZ, 0B543ZZ, 0B547ZZ, 0B548ZZ, 0B550ZZ, 0B553ZZ, 0B567ZZ, 0B558ZZ, 0B560ZZ, 0B563ZZ, 0B567ZZ, 0B568ZZ, 0B567ZZ, 0B568ZZ, 0B567ZZ, 0B577ZZ, 0B578ZZ, 0B568ZZ, 0B58ZZ, 0B58ZZ, 0B58ZZ, 0B58ZZ, 0B58ZZ, 0B58ZZ, 0B59ZZ, 0B593ZZ, 0B59ZZ, 0B59ZZ, 0B59ZZ, 0B58ZZ, 0B5B0ZZ, 0B5B3ZZ, 0B5B7ZZ, 0B5B8ZZ, 0B5B7ZZ, 0B5B0ZZ, 0B5B3ZZ, 0B5D0ZZ, 0B5D4ZZ, 0B5D7ZZ, 0B5D0ZZ, 0B5D4ZZ, 0B5C4ZZ, 0B5C7ZZ, 0B5D0ZZ, 0B5G4ZZ, 0B5G7ZZ, 0B5H0ZZ, 0B5H7ZZ, 0B5H7ZZ, 0B5H0ZZ, 0B5H7ZZ, 0B5H0ZZ, 0B5H7ZZ, 0B5H0ZZ, 0B5H7ZZ, 0B5H0ZZ, 0B5H7ZZ, 0B5H0ZZ, 0B5H7ZZ, 0B5M0ZZ, 0B5H7ZZ, 0B5M0ZZ, 0B5M4ZZ, 0B5H7ZZ, 0B5M0ZZ, 0B5M4ZZ, 0B5H7ZZ, 0B5M0ZZ, 0B5M3ZZ, 0B5M4ZZ, 0B5M4ZZ, 0B5M7ZZ, 0B5N0ZZ, 0B5N3ZZ, 0B5M4ZZ, 0B5P0ZZ, 0B5P3ZZ, 0B5N2Z, 0B5N3ZZ, 0B5N4ZZ, 0B9030Z, 0B930ZZ, 0B930ZZ, 0B933ZZ, 0B930ZZ, 0B930ZZ, 0B933ZZ, 0B9340Z, 0B934ZZ, 0B940ZZ, 0B940ZZ, 0B940ZZ, 0B940ZZ, 0B940ZZ, 0B940ZZ, 0B940ZZ, 0B940ZZ, 0B950ZZ, 0B950ZZ, 0B950ZZ, 0B953ZZ, 0B953ZZ, 0B954ZZ, 0B960DZ, 0B960ZZ, 0B960ZZ, 0B963ZZ, 0B9640Z, 0B960ZZ, 0B960ZZ, 0B963ZZ, 0B9640Z, 0B964ZZ, 0B970ZZ, 0B970ZZ, 0B970ZZ, 0B970ZZ, 0B970ZZ, 0B970ZZ, 0B970ZZ, 0B990ZZ, 0B993ZZ, 0B984DZ, 0B983ZZ, 0B984DZ, 0B983ZZ, 0B984DZ, 0B983ZZ, 0B980ZZ, 0B980ZZ, 0B990ZZ, 0B993ZZ, 0B990ZZ, 0B990ZZ, 0B993ZZ, 0B990ZZ, 0B9B3ZZ, 0B9B0ZZ, 0BBB0ZZ, 0BBB		

Modical /	Fullionology & Et		
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
S	Major chest procedures (cont.)	163 (cont.)	OBBG7ZZ, OBBHOZX, OBBHOZZ, OBBH3ZZ, OBBH4ZZ,           OBBH7ZZ, OBBJ0ZX, OBBJ0ZZ, OBBJ3ZZ, OBBJ4ZZ, OBBJ7ZZ,           OBBKOZX, OBBK0ZZ, OBBK3ZZ, OBBK4ZZ, OBBK7ZZ,           OBBL0ZX, OBBK0ZZ, OBBR3ZZ, OBBK4ZZ, OBBK7ZZ,           OBBMOZX, OBBN0ZZ, OBBM3ZZ, OBBM7ZZ, OBBN0ZZ,           OBBM3ZZ, OBBN4ZZ, OBBM3ZZ, OBBM7ZZ, OBBP3ZZ,           OBBP3ZZ, OBBT0ZX, OBBT0ZX, OBBT3ZX,           OBBT3ZZ, OBBT4ZX, OBBT0ZX, OBBT0ZZ, OBC50ZZ, OBC53ZZ,           OBC54ZZ, OBC60ZZ, OBC63ZZ, OBC64ZZ, OBC50ZZ, OBC53ZZ,           OBC54ZZ, OBC60ZZ, OBC63ZZ, OBC64ZZ, OBC70ZZ, OBC73ZZ,           OBC74ZZ, OBC60ZZ, OBC63ZZ, OBC64ZZ, OBC02Z, OBC73ZZ,           OBC94ZZ, OBC60ZZ, OBC63ZZ, OBC60ZZ, OBC03ZZ,           OBC64ZZ, OBC67ZZ, OBC68ZZ, OBC60ZZ, OBC63ZZ,           OBC64ZZ, OBC67ZZ, OBC68ZZ, OBC60ZZ, OBC3ZZ,           OBC64ZZ, OBC67ZZ, OBC68ZZ, OBC60ZZ, OBC63ZZ,           OBC64ZZ, OBC67ZZ, OBC68ZZ, OBC60ZZ, OBC63ZZ,

Medical/	MS-				
Surgical	DRG Title	DRG	ICD-10		
S	Major chest procedures (cont.)	163 (cont.)	BBL73CZ, 0BL73DZ, 0BL73ZZ, 0BL74CZ, 0BL74DZ, 0BL74ZZ, 0BL77DZ, 0BL77ZZ, 0BL78DZ, 0BL78ZZ, 0BL80CZ, 0BL80DZ, 0BL80ZZ, 0BL80ZZ, 0BL80ZZ, 0BL80ZZ, 0BL84DZ, 0BL84DZ, 0BL84DZ, 0BL84DZ, 0BL84DZ, 0BL84DZ, 0BL84DZ, 0BL84DZ, 0BL84DZ, 0BL90ZZ, 0BL90ZZ, 0BL93DZ, 0BL93DZ, 0BL93DZ, 0BL94CZ, 0BL94CZ, 0BL94DZ, 0BL94ZZ, 0BL97DZ, 0BL93DZ, 0BL98DZ, 0BL98ZZ, 0BLB0DZ, 0BL80DZ, 0BL8DZ, 0BLB3DZ, 0BLB7DZ, 0BM50ZZ, 0BM53ZZ, 0BN53ZZ, 0BN53ZZ, 0BN53ZZ, 0BN53ZZ, 0BN53ZZ, 0BN53ZZ, 0BN53ZZ, 0BN54ZZ, 0BN50ZZ, 0BN53ZZ, 0BN54ZZ, 0BN60ZZ, 0B		

Medical/	MS- MS- TOD 10				
Surgical	DRG Title	DRG	ICD-10		
S	Major chest procedures (cont.)	163 (cont.)	BBQ98ZZ, 0BQB0ZZ, 0BQB3ZZ, 0BQB4ZZ, 0BQ67ZZ, 0BQB8ZZ, 0BQC0ZZ, 0BQC3ZZ, 0BQC4ZZ, 0BQC7ZZ, 0BQC8ZZ, 0BQD0ZZ, 0BQG3ZZ, 0BQC4ZZ, 0BQC7ZZ, 0BQC8ZZ, 0BQF3ZZ, 0BQF4ZZ, 0BQF7ZZ, 0BQF8ZZ, 0BQF6ZZ, 0BQG6ZZ, 0BQG9ZZ, 0BQG9ZZ, 0BQG9ZZ, 0BQG4ZZ, 0BQG7ZZ, 0BQG8ZZ, 0BQH0ZZ, 0BQH3ZZ, 0BQH4ZZ, 0BQH7ZZ, 0BQH8ZZ, 0BQH0ZZ, 0BQH3ZZ, 0BQH4ZZ, 0BQH7ZZ, 0BQH8ZZ, 0BQM0ZZ, 0BQM3ZZ, 0BQM4ZZ, 0BQM7ZZ, 0BQM8ZZ, 0BQM8ZZ, 0BQM8ZZ, 0BQM8ZZ, 0BQM8ZZ, 0BQM8ZZ, 0BQM8ZZ, 0BQM8ZZ, 0BQM8ZZ, 0BQM7ZZ, 0BQM8ZZ, 0BQM7ZZ, 0BQM8ZZ, 0BQM7ZZ, 0BQM8ZZ, 0BQM7ZZ, 0BQM8ZZ, 0BQM0ZZ, 0BQM3ZZ, 0BQM4ZZ, 0BQM7ZZ, 0BQM8ZZ, 0BQM0ZZ, 0BQM3ZZ, 0BQM4ZZ, 0BQM7ZZ, 0BQM8ZZ, 0BQM0ZZ, 0BQM3ZZ, 0BQM4ZZ, 0BQP0ZZ, 0BQP3ZZ, 0BQP4ZZ, 0BR10ZZ, 0BR14ZZ, 0BR14Z, 0BR14Z, 0BR10Z, 0BR10Z, 0BR14ZZ, 0BR24Z, 0BR24Z, 0BR20Z, 0BR20Z, 0BR20Z, 0BR24Z, 0BR24Z, 0BR30Z, 0BR30Z, 0BR30Z, 0BR34Z, 0BR34Z, 0BR34Z, 0BR30Z, 0BR30Z, 0BR34Z, 0BR34Z, 0BR34Z, 0BR30Z, 0BR30Z, 0BR30Z, 0BR34Z, 0BR34Z, 0BR34Z, 0BR34Z, 0BR30Z, 0BR30Z, 0BR34Z, 0BS30ZZ, 0B		

Medical/	DRG Title	MS-	ICD-10
Surgical	Major chest procedures (cont.)	163 (cont.)	OBV28DZ, OBV28ZZ, OBV30CZ, OBV30DZ, OBV30ZZ, OBV33CZ, OBV33DZ, OBV33CZ, OBV33DZ, OBV33CZ, OBV34CZ, OBV34DZ, OBV34DZ, OBV34ZZ, OBV37DZ, OBV37ZZ, OBV38DZ, OBV38ZZ, OBV40CZ, OBV40DZ, OBV40ZZ, OBV43DZ, OBV43DZ, OBV44ZZ, OBV44DZ, OBV44DZ, OBV44DZ, OBV44DZ, OBV44DZ, OBV44DZ, OBV44DZ, OBV44DZ, OBV44DZ, OBV50ZZ, OBV50DZ, OBV50ZZ, OBV53DZ, OBV53DZ, OBV54CZ, OBV54DZ, OBV54DZ, OBV54DZ, OBV54ZZ, OBV57DZ, OBV57ZZ, OBV58DZ, OBV58ZZ, OBV60CZ, OBV60DZ, OBV60ZZ, OBV60DZ, OBV60ZZ, OBV63DZ, OBV63ZZ, OBV64DZ, OBV64DZ, OBV64DZ, OBV67DZ, OBV70ZZ, OBV70ZZ, OBV73ZZ, OBV70ZZ, OBV73ZZ, OBV70ZZ, OBV73ZZ, OBV73ZZ, OBV77DZ, OBV73ZZ, OBV73ZZ, OBV74CZ, OBV74DZ, OBV73ZZ, OBV73ZZ, OBV78DZ, OBV78ZZ, OBV80DZ, OBV73ZZ, OBV78DZ, OBV78ZZ, OBV80DZ, OBV80ZZ, OBV83DZ, OBV83ZZ, OBV84CZ, OBV8DZZ, OBV83DZ, OBV83ZZ, OBV88DZ, OBV88ZZ, OBV84DZ, OBV85ZZ, OBV85ZZ, OBV85ZZ, OBV85ZZ, OBV85ZZ, OBV85ZZ, OBV85ZZ, OBV93ZZ, OBVB5ZZ, OBVB5ZZ, OBVB5ZZ, OBVB0ZZ, OBVB0ZZ, OBVB5ZZ, OBVB5ZZ, OBVB5ZZ, OBVB5ZZ, OBVB5ZZ, OBVB5ZZ, OBVB5ZZ, OBVB0ZZ, OBV90ZZ, OBV00ZZ, OBW00ZZ, OBW10ZZ, ODW10ZZ, ODW10ZZ, ODW10ZZ, ODW10ZZ, ODW10ZZ, ODW10ZZ, OWJ00ZZ, OWJ
S	Other resp system O.R. procedures	166 167 168	Include all Include all Include all
M	Pulmonary embolism	175 176	Include all Include all
M	Respiratory infections & inflammations	177 178 179	Exclude diagnoses: R76.11, R76.12 See MS-DRG 177 See MS-DRG 177

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
	Respiratory neoplasms	180	Exclude diagnoses: D14.2, D14.30, D14.31, D14.32, D14.4, D15.2, D15.7, D15.9, D16.7, D19.0, D3A.090
М		181	See MS-DRG 180
		182	See MS-DRG 180
		183	Include all
M	Major chest trauma	184	Include all
		185	Include all
М	Pleural effusion	186	Include all
IVI	r leurai ettusiott	187	Include all
М	Pulmonary edema & respiratory failure	189	Include all
	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	190	Include all
M		191	Include all
		192	Include all
М	Simple pneumonia & pleurisy	193	Include all
IVI	Simple prieditionia & piedrisy	194	Include all
	Interstitial lung disease	196	Include all
M		197	Include all
		198	Include all
М	Pneumothorax	199	Exclude diagnoses: J95.811
IVI	Fileumotrorax	200	See MS-DRG 199
M	Bronchitis & asthma	202	Include all
М	Respiratory system diagnosis w ventilator support	207	Include all
IVI	Trespiratory system diagnosis w ventilator support	208	Include all
		870	Include all
M	Septicemia or severe sepsis w MV 96+ hours	871	Include all
		872	Include all

## **Urology\***

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
		653	Include all
S	Major bladder procedures	654	Include all
		655	Include all
S	Kidney & ureter procedures for neoplasm	656	Include procedures: 0T1307B, 0T130JB, 0T130KB, 0T130ZB, 0T1347B, 0T134JB, 0T134KB, 0T134ZB, 0T1407B, 0T140JB, 0T140KB, 0T140ZB, 0T1447B, 0T144JB, 0T144KB, 0T144ZB, 0T16076, 0T16077, 0T16078, 0T16079, 0T1607A, 0T1607B, 0T1607C, 0T1607D, 0T160JG, 0T160J7, 0T160JB, 0T160J9, 0T160JA, 0T160JB, 0T160JC, 0T160JD, 0T160KG, 0T160K7, 0T160K8, 0T160K9, 0T160KA, 0T160KB, 0T160KC, 0T160KD, 0T160Z6, 0T160Z7, 0T160Z8, 0T160Z9, 0T160ZA, 0T160ZB, 0T160ZC, 0T160ZD, 0T163JD, 0T16476, 0T16477, 0T16478, 0T16479, 0T1647A, 0T1647B, 0T1647C, 0T1647D, 0T164J6, 0T164J7, 0T164J8, 0T164J9, 0T164JA, 0T164KB, 0T164KA, 0T164KB, 0T164KC, 0T164KD, 0T164Z6, 0T164Z7, 0T164Z8,

Medical/	Orology	MS-	
Surgical	DRG Title	DRG	ICD-10
S	Kidney & ureter procedures for neoplasm (cont.)	656 (cont.)	0DX80ZC, 0DX80ZD, 0DX80ZF, 0DX84ZC, 0DX84ZD, 0DX84ZF, 0T164Z9, 0T164ZA, 0T164ZE, 0T164ZC, 0T164ZD, 0T17076, 0T17077, 0T17078, 0T17079, 0T17070, 0T17078, 0T17079, 0T17070, 0T17079, 0T17079, 0T17070, 0T170JD, 0T170JD, 0T170JA, 0T170JP, 0T170JP, 0T170JA, 0T170JP, 0T170JD, 0T170JD, 0T170K6, 0T170K7, 0T170K8, 0T170K9, 0T170JD, 0T170KB, 0T170KC, 0T170KD, 0T170Z6, 0T170Z7, 0T170Z8, 0T170Z9, 0T170Z0, 0T170ZP, 0T170Z0, 0T17476, 0T17477, 0T17478, 0T17479, 0T1747A, 0T1747B, 0T1747B, 0T1747B, 0T1747B, 0T1747B, 0T1747B, 0T174JD, 0T174JB, 0T174KB, 0T174KB, 0T174KB, 0T174ZB, 0T18078, 0T18078, 0T18078, 0T18078, 0T1807C, 0T1807B, 0T1807B, 0T1807B, 0T1807C, 0T1807B, 0T1807B, 0T180JB, 0T1

Madiaal/	Crology	_	,
Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
S	Kidney & ureter procedures for neoplasm (cont.)	656 (cont.)	OTP94MZ, OTP977Z, OTP97CZ, OTP97JZ, OTP97KZ, OTP97MZ, OTP987Z, OTP98CZ, OTP98JZ, OTP98KZ, OTP98MZ, OTP98MZ, OTP98MZ, OTP98MZ, OTQ60ZZ, OTQ63ZZ, OTQ64ZZ, OTQ67ZZ, OTQ68ZZ, OTQ70ZZ, OTQ73ZZ, OTQ77ZZ, OTQ77ZZ, OTQ78ZZ, OTR607Z, OTR60JZ, OTR60KZ, OTR647Z, OTR64JZ, OTR64KZ, OTR677Z, OTR67JZ, OTR67KZ, OTR68KZ, OTR68Z, OTR68KZ, OTR707Z, OTR70JZ, OTR70KZ, OTR747Z, OTR74JZ, OTR74KZ, OTR77Z, OTR70JZ, OTR77KZ, OTR74Z, OTR78JZ, OTR78KZ, OTR78Z, OTR78JZ, OTR78KZ, OTS60ZZ, OTS64ZZ, OTS70ZZ, OTS74ZZ, OTS80ZZ, OTS84ZZ, OTT60ZZ, OTT64ZZ, OTT67ZZ, OTT68ZZ, OTT060ZZ, OTT74ZZ, OTT06JZ, OTU60JZ, OTU60KZ, OTU647Z, OTU64JZ, OTU64KZ, OTU67Z, OTU67JZ, OTU60KZ, OTU687Z, OTU68JZ, OTU68KZ, OTU707Z, OTU70JZ, OTU70KZ, OTU74Z, OTU74JZ, OTU74Z, OTU77Z, OTU77JZ, OTU77KZ, OTU74Z, OTU78JZ, OTU78ZZ, OTV60CZ, OTV60DZ, OTV60ZZ, OTV63CZ, OTV63CZ, OTV64DZ, OTV64ZZ, OTV67DZ, OTV67ZZ, OTV68DZ, OTV68ZZ, OTV70CZ, OTV70DZ, OTV70ZZ, OTV77DZ, OTV77ZZ, OTV74CZ, OTV74DZ, OTV77ZZ, OTV78DZ, OTV78ZZ, OTV74DZ, OTV74ZZ, OTV77DZ, OTV77ZZ, OTV78DZ, OTV78ZZ, OTV90DZ, OTV70ZZ, OTV90SZ, OTW90SZ, OTW90ZZ, OTW90ZZ, OTW93ZZ, OTW93ZZ, OTW93ZZ, OTW93ZZ, OTW94ZZ, OTW97ZZ, OT
		657	
		658 659	
S	Kidney & ureter procedures for non-neoplasm	660	
	Triancy & dieter procedures for non-neoplasm	661	
		662	Include all
S	Minor bladder procedures	663	OTU747Z, OTU74JZ, OTU74KZ, OTU77TZ, OTU77JZ, OTU77KZ, OTU787Z, OTU78JZ, OTU78JZ, OTU78KZ, OTV60CZ, OTV60DZ, OTV60ZZ, OTV63CZ, OTV63DZ, OTV63DZ, OTV63DZ, OTV64CZ, OTV64DZ, OTV64DZ, OTV67DZ, OTV67DZ, OTV67DZ, OTV73DZ, OTV73DZ, OTV70CZ, OTV70DZ, OTV70ZZ, OTV73CZ, OTV73DZ, OTV73ZZ, OTV74CZ, OTV74DZ, OTV74ZZ, OTV74DZ, OTV77ZZ, OTV78DZ, OTV78ZZ, OTW90OZ, OTW90Z, OTW90Z, OTW90Z, OTW90Z, OTW90Z, OTW90Z, OTW90Z, OTW90Z, OTW90Z, OTW93ZZ, OTW94ZZ, OTW94ZZ, OTW94ZZ, OTW94ZZ, OTW94ZZ, OTW94ZZ, OTW94ZZ, OTW94ZZ, OTW97ZZ, OTW98ZZ, OTW98ZZ, OTW98ZZ, OTW98ZZ, OTW98ZZ, OTW98ZZ, OTW98ZZ, OTW98ZZ, OWQF4ZZ  See MS-DRG 656  See MS-DRG 656  See MS-DRG 656  See MS-DRG 656  Include all
	·	664	
S	Prostatectomy	665	
J	Tostatectomy	666	
S	Transurethral procedures	668	
	·	669	
S	Urethral procedures w CC/MCC	671	
S	Other kidney & urinary tract procedures	673 674	Include procedures: 0VPS0JZ, 0VPS3JZ, 0VPS4JZ, 0VPS7JZ, 0VPS8JZ, 0VUS0JZ, 0VUS4JZ See MS-DRG 673
		675	See MS-DRG 673

<sup>\*</sup>Exclude principal diagnosis: T8351 (catheter-associated urinary tract infections)

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
М	Kidney & urinary tract neoplasms	686 687	Exclude diagnoses: C64.1, C64.2, C64.9, C65.1, C65.2, C65.9, C79.00, C79.01, C79.02, C7A.093, D30.00, D30.01, D30.02, D30.10, D30.11, D30.12, D3A.093  See MS-DRG 686
		688	See MS-DRG 686
М	Urethral stricture	697	Include all
М	Other kidney & urinary tract diagnoses	698	Exclude diagnoses: E08.21, E08.22, E08.29, E09.21, E09.22, E09.29, E10.21, E10.22, E10.29, E11.21, E11.22, E11.29, E13.21, E13.22, E13.29, I70.1, I72.2, I75.81, I77.73, I82.3, M10.30, M10.311, M10.312, M10.319, M10.321, M10.322, M10.329, M10.331, M10.332, M10.339, M10.341, M10.342, M10.349, M10.351, M10.352, M10.359, M10.361, M10.362, M10.369, M10.371, M10.372, M10.379, M10.38, M10.39, N00.0, N00.1, N00.2, N00.3, N00.4, N00.5, N00.6, N00.7, N00.8, N00.9, N01.0, N01.1, N01.2, N01.3, N01.4, N01.5, N01.6, N01.7, N01.8, N01.9, N02.0, N02.1, N02.2, N02.3, N02.4, N02.5, N02.6, N02.7, N02.8, N02.9, N03.0, N03.1, N03.2, N03.3, N03.4, N03.5, N03.6, N03.7, N03.8, N03.9, N04.0, N04.1, N04.2, N04.3, N04.4, N04.5, N04.6, N04.7, N04.8, N04.9, N05.0, N05.1, N05.2, N05.3, N05.4, N05.5, N05.6, N05.7, N05.8, N05.9, N06.0, N06.1, N06.2, N06.3, N06.4, N06.5, N06.6, N06.7, N06.8, N06.9, N07.0, N07.1, N07.2, N07.3, N07.4, N07.5, N07.6, N07.7, N07.8, N07.9, N08, N14.0, N14.1, N14.2, N14.3, N14.4, N14.11, N14.19, N15.0, N15.8, N15.9, N16, N25.0, N25.1, N25.81, N25.89, N25.9, N26.1, N26.9, N27.0, N27.1, N27.9, N28.0, N28.1, N28.81, N28.83, N28.9, N29, R80.2, S37.001A, S37.002A, S37.009A, S37.011A, S37.012A, S37.032A, S37.031A, S37.022A, S37.029A, S37.031A, S37.032A, S37.039A, S37.041A, S37.042A, S37.049A, S37.051A, S37.052A, S37.059A, S37.061A, S37.062A, S37.069A, S37.091A, S37.092A, S37.099A, Z52.4, Z94.0
		700 707	See MS-DRG 698 Include all
S	Major male pelvic procedures	707	Include all
S	Penis procedures	709 710	Include all
S	Testes procedures	711	Include all
S	·	712 713	Include all
	Transurethral prostatectomy w CC/MCC Other male reproductive system O.R. proc for	713	Include all
S	malignancy	716	Include all
S	Other male reproductive system O.R. proc exc malignancy	717 718	Include all Include all
М	Malignancy, male reproductive system	722 723 724	Include all Include all

<sup>\*</sup>Exclude principal diagnosis: T8351 (catheter-associated urinary tract infections)

Medical/ Surgical	DRG Title	MS- DRG	ICD-10
М	Inflammation of the male reproductive system	727	Include all
IVI	initianimation of the male reproductive system	728	Include all
М	Other weeks was advertised assets as adversarial	729	Exclude diagnoses: Z30.2
	Other male reproductive system diagnoses	730	Include all Exclude diagnoses: Z30.2 See MS-DRG 729 Include all
S	Description O. D. Invesced transported to invincinal	984	Include all
	Prostatic O.R. procedure unrelated to principal	985	Include all
	diagnosis	986	Include all

# **Appendix C**

**Year-by-Year History of Methodology Changes** 

RTI began working with *U.S. News* on the Best Hospitals rankings in 2005. This section details the changes to the previous Best Hospitals methodology used between 2005-2023. These brief descriptions are provided for context to allow consumers of the rankings to review year-over-year changes implemented to the rankings.

#### Summary of 2023-2024 Changes

- Introducing outpatient outcomes in specialty rankings. New "Prevention of outpatient procedural complications" outcome measures were added in the Orthopedics and Urology rankings. These measures, calculated by U.S. News using novel software developed by 3M Health Information Systems, evaluate the ability of hospitals to reduce complications related to procedures performed in an outpatient setting. Outpatient surgeries now account for a majority of all surgeries performed in the U.S.
- Expanded inclusion of outpatient cases in volume measures in two other specialty rankings. Volume measures and volume-based eligibility rules used in the Ear, Nose & Throat and Obstetrics & Gynecology rankings now include relevant outpatient procedural cases.
- Increased weight on objective quality measures, and reduced weight on expert opinion. The weight on outcome measures increased from 37.5% to 45% and other objective measures increased from 35% to 40% in each of 11 specialties. The weight on physician opinion was reduced from as much as 27.5% to either 12% or 15%, depending on the specialty.
- Rehabilitation methodology revised. Objective measures now account in aggregate for 70% of the methodology for Rehabilitation. Weights on objective measures increase for outcomes from 20% last year to 30% this year, for volume from 10% to 15%, for patient services and resources (from 12% to 15%), and for external recognitions (CARF accreditation and Model Systems participation) from 3% to 5%. The 5% weight placed on staff vaccination rates remains unchanged. Additionally, the volume measure was redefined to encompass six rehabilitation impairment categories (RICs), up from three RICs previously, in order to represent a more comprehensive examination of the breadth of care provided by each hospital.
- Transparency measures' weight standardized and expanded to a fourth specialty. All transparency measures were given a standard weight of 3% in specialties that utilize these measures. A new transparency measure was added to the Pulmonology & Lung Surgery specialty rankings and Lung Cancer Surgery ratings, based on the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) General Thoracic Surgery Database (GTSD) quality improvement program. That new measure, and three existing transparency measures in other specialties, each received a weight of 3%.

- **Risk adjustment.** Using criteria from the Elixhauser Comorbidity Software Refined for ICD-10-CM (version v2023.1), risk adjustment of all inpatient outcome measures in all specialties employed an expanded set of 38 comorbidities. Documentation describing v2023.1 of the Elixhauser software is publicly available at <a href="mailto:ahrq.gov">ahrq.gov</a>.
- **Discharge to home outcome definition.** For the discharge to home outcome measure, discharges to an inpatient rehabilitation facility (IRF) were excluded from both the numerator and denominator. Previously these visits were treated as discharges to a location other than home. This change was made to reflect that a discharge to IRF suggests an intermediate outcome, which is less optimal than a discharge to home with full recovery but with better prospects for functional recovery than is implied by a discharge to SNF or long-term acute care.
- Covid exclusions from outcome measures. As in the prior year's rankings, certain visits were excluded from outcome measures to control for the disruptive and variable effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. However, these exclusion criteria were refined this year, such that a visit was excluded if it: a) occurred in March 2020; b) occurred in 2020 and the patient was diagnosed with Covid-19; or c) occurred between April 1, 2020, and December 31, 2020, and the hospital in which the visit occurred experienced a Covid-19 rate higher than the national mean or 15%, whichever was less, during the month in which the visit occurred. If the patient was diagnosed with Covid-19 in 2021 and onward, the visit is not excluded but is risk adjusted instead.
- **Nurse staffing.** Nurse staffing was calculated using data from the most recent single year available (i.e., the 2021 AHA survey database).
- Winsorization of volume, nurse staffing and expert opinion. Recent research demonstrates that hospital rankings determined by a composite of multiple measures are sensitive to the methods by which constituent measures are normalized. 40 Because volume, nurse staffing and expert opinion tend to have skewed distributions, with a small number of extremely high values, these measures were winsorized on the higher end of their distributions. That is, observed values exceeding a certain threshold (e.g., greater than 25% for expert opinion) were replaced with the threshold score (e.g., 25%) prior to normalization of the measure. Similarly, the new outpatient outcome measures in Orthopedics and Urology were winsorized at their 99th percentile values.
- Trauma center verification. The project team took steps to independently verify that hospitals identified as trauma centers in the AHA Annual Survey Database did, in fact, have government-certified trauma centers on site.
- Metastatic cancer cases excluded from Orthopedics. To improve the homogeneity of the Orthopedics cohort, admissions involving a principal diagnosis of metastatic cancer were excluded.

- HCAHPS adjustment for orthopedic and surgical hospitals. In Orthopedics, to
  account for fundamental differences in the clinical characteristics of patients treated
  at specialty hospitals as compared to general acute-care hospitals, HCAHPS scores
  for orthopedic hospitals and surgical hospitals were algorithmically adjusted to be
  more comparable to scores observed across all general acute-care hospitals.
- Specialty-specific eligibility criteria. Eligibility criteria in Ear, Nose & Throat and Obstetrics & Gynecology were revised to consider total volume, including outpatient volume. Separately, cancer hospitals were excluded from five specialties (Diabetes & Endocrinology, Geriatrics, Orthopedics, Neurology & Neurosurgery, and Pulmonology & Lung Surgery) in which cancer care represents a relatively modest proportion of cases overall. This exclusion was introduced because the patient population previously included in each of those specialties was not comparable between cancer hospitals and hospitals that remain eligible in those specialties.
- Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery. The specialty formerly known as
  Cardiology & Heart Surgery has been renamed Cardiology, Heart & Vascular
  Surgery, in recognition that vascular specialists take the lead on some cases that have
  consistently been included in the specialty's outcome measures. In certain contexts,
  U.S. News will use the shorthand Heart & Vascular to refer to Cardiology, Heart &
  Vascular Surgery.
- **Honor Roll**. Ordinal (numerical) rankings were not assigned to the Honor Roll this year.

## Summary of 2022-2023 Changes

- Adjustments related to the COVID-19 pandemic. We excluded visits in which a patient had a diagnosis of COVID-19. For each hospital's outcome measures, we also excluded visits from March 2020 and for other months in 2020 in which the hospital's COVID-19 rate exceeded the national average or exceeded 15%, whichever was less. In addition, for hospitals with higher volume in 2017-2019 than in 2018-2020, we calculated volume measures using observed volumes from 2017-2019.
- Removal of CLABSI and/or CAUTI cases in three specialties. In Cardiology
  and Heart Surgery, any case with primary diagnosis of CLABSI (central-lineassociated bloodstream infections) was removed from analysis. In Geriatrics, any
  case with a primary diagnosis of CLABSI or CAUTI (catheter-associated urinary
  tract infections) was removed from analysis. In Urology, any case with a primary
  diagnosis of CAUTI was removed from analysis.
- Updated Obstetrics & Gynecology specialty. The name of the specialty was changed to Obstetrics & Gynecology in recognition of changes to the specialty. This specialty now includes a new transparency indicator that is based on participation by hospitals in public reporting on the U.S. News Maternity Services Survey. Hospitals

- that participated in this public reporting received credit for the transparency indicator which is now worth 3% of their total U.S. News Score for this ranking.
- Update to Cardiology and Heart Surgery specialty. This specialty replaced the structural eligibility requirements from the AHA annual survey with a new indicator that the hospital offered cardiac surgical services from the U.S. News Procedures & Conditions ratings. Hospitals that qualified for any rating in AVR and CABG in 2021-2022 were eligible for this specialty if they met the volume and expert opinion requirements listed earlier in this report. Also, the Patient Services measure was updated to include a measure of whether the hospital offered a cardiac intensive care unit (CICU) as part of the services available to patients.
- Update to Honor Roll & Best Regional Hospitals. Three new cohorts were added to the Honor Roll and Best Regional Hospitals in 2022-2023. These include ovarian, uterine, and prostate cancer surgery. The ovarian and uterine cancer surgery cohorts were combined for these lists and considered together in the same way that AVR and TAVR are considered as a single group. This effectively increases the number of possible points for hospitals by two cohorts. See the detailed description in the proceeding section.

#### Summary of 2021–2022 Changes

- Introduction of a new data-driven inpatient Rehabilitation ranking. The previous rehabilitation ranking has been expanded to include additional process, outcome, and structural measures introducing a new version of the ranking for 2021-2022 that makes use of a data-driven methodology. As additional measures of rehabilitation care become available for use, the project will continue to expand the set of measures used to evaluate hospitals in this area.
- Refined the Discharge to Home measure. For the "discharge to home" outcome measure, two small changes were made to the analyses this year to refine the focus on only relevant cases. First, we removed all admissions from skilled nursing facilities (SNF, clm\_src\_ip\_admsn\_cd=5) from the denominator. Second, we removed all discharges to home hospice (ptnt\_dschrg\_stus\_cd=50) from the denominator.
- Nurse staffing adjustments. Nurse staffing was averaged over three years to reduce the impact of year-to-year variation in reporting. The 2021-2022 rankings created an average of the nurse staffing index values as calculated from the 2017, 2018, and 2019 AHA databases.

# Summary of 2020-2021 Changes

• Updates to the Risk Adjustment of the Mortality and Discharge to Home Scores. For the 2020-2021 rankings, all covariates were the same as was used in the 2019-2020 rankings with the exception of the removal of the ICD version. All years of data incorporated in the 2020-2021 rankings used ICD-10 codes, so this covariate was no longer needed in the model.

- Move to Calendar Year for Medicare Data. For all Medicare data used in the project, we switched from fiscal to calendar year. We made this change for two reasons. First, to harmonize the specialty hospital rankings with the Procedures & Conditions ratings, where calendar year data has been used for a number of years. Second, calendar year data is three months more recent than the corresponding fiscal year data, so this change ensured that more up-to-date data were used for the rankings.
- Accounting for Medicare Advantage in Volume Measures. To measure hospital volume in each specialty, we used volume counts from the MedPAR datasets, which includes patients who have Medicare Advantage insurance, to adjust volumes to account for Medicare cases missing from the SAF datasets. For hospitals that treat Medicare Advantage patients, using this adjustment produced a more precise measure of volume and removed the need to use county-level Medicare Advantage penetration rate, as we have done in the past, to adjust Medicare fee-for-service volume. In a small number of cases, MedPAR data was not available, so the county-level Medicare Advantage penetration rate was used to estimate the adjustment to the volume.
- **Discharge to Home Update.** For the "discharge to home" outcome measure, patients who received nonsurgical care and were discharged to home hospice (discharge status code 50) are now treated as having been discharged to home. We changed our approach due to feedback we received stating that for patients who are dying (such as patients with advanced cancer), being discharged to home hospice is often the best patient-centered outcome. Additionally, all patients who were discharged home with planned readmission (discharge status codes 81 or 86) are now treated as having been discharged to home. Patients with any of several rare codes indicating the involvement of a court or law enforcement agency were excluded from the measure.
- Stroke Registry Transparency Measure. A new measure of public transparency was added in Neurology & Neurosurgery. The hospitals that opted-in by the December 2019 deadline to publicly report performance measures from the American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines-Stroke program received credit if evaluated in this specialty. The weight assigned to this transparency measure was 2 percent, and the weight assigned to Expert Opinion in this specialty was reduced by the same amount.

# Summary of 2019-2020 Changes

• Update of the Mortality Measure and Survival Score. Starting with 2019-2020, the rankings moved to a new mortality measure as the basis of the survival score. The new measure utilizes risk-adjustment methodologies developed in the Best Hospitals for Procedures & Conditions project to evaluate one of the most important outcomes of care—whether patients live or die as a result of inpatient hospitalization. The new methodology utilizes multilevel logistic regression models to adjust for differences in case mix between hospitals. The model calculates RE

(random effect) scores which can be thought of as a hospital level off-set. They represent the risk difference between a hospital and all hospitals in a given specialty, discounted by the reliability of that difference (based on the volume of cases). The models make use of a variety of covariates such as patient age, gender, Medicare status, the year of the visit, Elixhauser comorbidities, dual eligibility for Medicare and Medicaid (a proxy measure of socio-economic status), the DRG group of the claim, and an indicator of whether the claim was coded in ICD-9 or ICD-10 to account for differences in coding practices.

- Addition of the Discharge to Home Score. A new outcome for 2019-2020 rankings is the discharge to home score, which assesses how well a hospital does at managing to discharge patients to home rather than sending them on to another acute, post-acute, or long-term care setting following hospitalization. This measure provides unique information about hospital outcome performance that has been available in the Best Hospitals for Procedures & Conditions ratings for a number of years but is new to the Best Hospitals Specialty Rankings.
- Removal of the Patient Safety Score. Since 2009, the Best Hospitals Specialty Rankings have included a patient safety score, which were constructed from a selection of Patient Safety Indicators (PSIs). The PSIs that constituted the patient safety score have evolved over time as our understanding of the validity and reliability of individual PSIs has changed. For 2019-2020, we removed the patient safety score from the methodology. While the construct of patient safety remains important, we concluded that these specific measures are not ideal for comparing hospital performance.
- Addition of Patient Experience Score. In response to feedback from patients,
  hospital leaders and other stakeholders about the importance of the patient
  experience when considering healthcare quality, we introduced the patient experience
  score. This score is based on the linear mean score data from the Hospital
  Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) patient
  satisfaction survey.
- Removal of DRG 470 from orthopedics. This DRG, which includes hip and knee replacement, was removed from the Best Hospitals rankings because it overlaps with cases included in the Best Hospitals for Procedures & Conditions ratings. These low-risk procedures generally do not require complex specialty care, and some health systems are increasingly treating these cases in settings different from those where complex orthopedic care is delivered.

# Summary of 2018-2019 Changes

• Removal of the transfer adjustment for mortality. Since 2010, the rankings have adjusted mortality ratios for the influence of particularly high or low transfer rates to control for potential bias in the evaluation of hospital outcomes. This was done to address issues with coding of transfers in the datasets used which had been shown to be problematic at times. With the move to the SAF data, the project is now able to use both identified transfers on the record along with calculated implicit transfers

- which effectively overcomes the previous issues, removing the need for the adjustment.
- Backwards mapping of ICD-10 to ICD-9. Since two of the three years of SAF data used in the rankings for 2018-19 appear in ICD-9 format, the project chose to recode the ICD-10 data from FY2016 into ICD-9 format for the volume and mortality analyses. Due to the increased granularity of the ICD-10 codes, it is possible to backwards map ICD-10 codes to ICD-9 codes. The project team utilized the IBM Watson Health mapping of ICD-10 to ICD-9 codes to recode data, so that the same DRGs could be used for all three years. The project anticipates using the same approach for the 2019-2020 rankings before moving completely to ICD-10 in 2020. (See page 26-27.)
- Updated Survival Score calculation. To improve the clarity of the survival scores used in the data-driven specialties, the project team updated the method of calculating these display-only scores (this change does not affect points assigned in the rankings). The scores are now calculated based on the adjusted mortality ratio (rather than the unadjusted ratio) and are based on quintiles above and below a mortality ratio of 1.0; ratios above 1.0 will receive a score of 1-5, while those below a ratio of 1.0 will receive a score of 6-10. (See pages 31-32.)

#### Summary of 2017-2018 Changes

- Move to SAF data. The project implemented a change from the MedPAR to the SAF inpatient limited datasets for all volume, mortality, and patient safety calculations; the exception is that the HSCRC all-payer database continued to be used for the Patient Safety Score calculations for hospitals located in Maryland. Only patients receiving care under traditional Medicare (fee-for-service) are included in the SAF data used for analyses; as a result, all hospital volumes will be reduced due to the lack of CMS managed care patients in the SAF data.
- Volume adjustment for loss of Medicare Advantage. Volumes were estimated for hospitals in each specialty using an adjustment to account for the loss of Medicare Advantage patients from the analyses. The numerator for the volume calculation was the number of fee-for-service discharges meeting the criteria for inclusion in the specialty. The denominator was the proportion of Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in fee-for-service (as opposed to Medicare Advantage) in the county in which the hospital is located. The denominator was calculated by subtracting from 1.0 the CMS Medicare Advantage penetration estimates, expressed as a decimal less than 1.0, for June 2013. As a result, the volumes reported represent estimates rather than observed volumes of care at each hospital.
- Socioeconomic status (SES) adjustment to the survival score. The rankings now incorporate a new adjustment at the patient level for dual-eligibility for Medicare and Medicaid. The dual eligible flag is set to either 0 (not present) or 1 (present) for each case entering the risk-adjusted mortality equation. This was done to address known differences in morbidity and mortality with hospital patients associated with lower

- SES; dual-eligibility, or more specifically eligibility for Medicaid, is being used in this case to represent lower SES.
- Intensivists. Hospitals now receive 1 point for having at least one intensivist FTE reported as being available in any adult-focused intensive care unit within the hospital. This change now provides somewhat broader credit to hospitals for having intensivists available than in previous years.
- Nurse Magnet. The Nurse Magnet measure was updated to better reflect program coverage for hospitals that are part of a multi-campus system or an arrangement with another hospital outside the system. Hospitals received 1 point for being recognized as a Nurse Magnet hospital. For hospitals that are part of a special merger or a multiplex healthcare system, the primary hospital is required to have Magnet Recognition status for the combination hospital to receive 1 point. If there is no defined primary hospital, then if either hospital in the special merger has Magnet Recognition status then both receive credit. Partial credit was not offered in the 2017-2018 rankings.
- Patient safety score. Two of the PSIs used in the patient safety score—PSI 06 (Iatrogenic Pneumothorax) and PSI 14 (Postoperative Wound Dehiscence)—were dropped due to concerns that low base rates could lead to unreliable measurement. The scoring for the remaining individual PSIs was also revised to a three-point scale with the middle category defined as the mean +/- 2 standard deviations. The individual PSI scores were combined to form a 1-9-point Patient Safety Score with higher numbers indicating better performance (i.e., lower rates of patient safety events).
- Nurse staffing score adjustments. The project implemented three changes to the nurse staffing score for the 2017-18 rankings. First, the calculation now includes a correction for hospitals that provide onsite skilled nursing and report their nursing inclusive of both the inpatient and skilled nursing. The nursing FTEs associated with the skilled nursing are removed from the numerator and a corrected adjusted average daily census is used for the denominator. The corrected adjusted average daily census values for hospitals affected by this change are calculated and provided directly to the project by the AHA. Second, to address problems with missing data—in particular the primary nursing FTEs variable (FTEN)—the rankings impute missing FTEN values. For the imputation, hospitals that do not have extreme nurse staffing ratios are selected and the calculation incorporates data from current values for FTEN (Full time equivalent registered nurses reported), FTERN (Full time equivalent registered nurses estimated), ADJADC (Adjusted Average Daily Census) and BDTOT (total hospital beds set up and staffed). Third, to address volatility in the nurse staffing measure for hospitals with relatively low numbers of patients, we adjust the nurse staffing values for hospitals in the lowest quartile of adjusted average daily census by blending their rate with that of the average adjusted nurse staffing rate for hospitals eligible for the rankings.
- Surgical Minimums for Eligibility in Neurology and Neurosurgery. To be eligible for evaluation in the neurology and neurosurgery specialty hospitals are now

required to be at the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher in terms of the ratio of surgical to total discharges within the DRGs evaluated for the specialty. This change was made to address excessive bias in mortality rates for hospitals with a very low ratio of surgical-to-total discharges.

#### Summary of 2016-2017 Changes

- MedPAR data. Only patients receiving care under Medicare (fee-for-service and, if
  available, managed-care) and who were 65 years of age or older were included in the
  MedPAR file used for analyses. In previous years, all ages were used which resulted
  in somewhat inflated volume rates.
- Component weight. The overall weight for the patient safety index was lowered from 10% in 2015-16 to 5% in 2016-17. The overall weight for outcomes was correspondingly increased from 32.5% last year to 37.5%.
- Intensivists. Hospitals now receive 1 point for having at least one intensivist whether on staff or through another privileged arrangement. Previously, intensivists were required to be on staff.
- Nurse Magnet. The Nurse Magnet measure was updated to better reflect program coverage for hospitals that are part of a multicampus system or an arrangement with another hospital outside the system. These combined entities only received full credit in 2016-17 (1 point) if all hospitals in the combination had Nurse Magnet recognition as of April 1, 2016. If the primary hospital had Nurse Magnet recognition but the specialty or secondary hospital(s) did not, the combined entity received half credit (0.5 point).
- **Public transparency**. In Cardiology & Heart Surgery only, a new measure was added rewarding hospitals for participation in transparency in public reporting of heart outcomes with the ACC and STS.
- Use of SAF data for patient safety. In previous years, the data source for the patient safety score was the same 3-year sample from the MedPAR dataset that was used for the volume and mortality analyses. For 2016-17, the rankings used data from the CMS SAF data instead of MedPAR. This change was motivated by the need to have more accurate procedure data for a number of the PSI calculations.
- Patient safety score. PSI 03, decubitus ulcer, was dropped due to concerns that the measure was overly sensitive to missing POA data in the record, which could confound comparisons.
- Data for Maryland hospitals. For Maryland hospitals, data from the state's HSCRC all-payer database were used for patient safety. This change was made to address incomplete coding of POA indicators in the CMS datasets for some of the years of analyses under consideration for the rankings.

• Honor Roll. Moved to a new format that incorporated results from the 12 data-driven specialty rankings, the 4 expert opinion-based specialty rankings, and the 9 procedures and conditions ratings. Hospitals received points for being ranked in each of the Best Hospitals data-driven and expert opinion only specialties if they appeared in the top 50, and additional points if they achieved a rating of high performing in the procedures and conditions ratings. The Honor Roll now recognizes the 20 hospitals that earned the most points out of the possible total.

#### Summary of 2015-2016 Changes

- Technology and Patient Services. Due to changes to the AHA annual survey, there are now three categories instead of four categories for receiving credit for providing technology and patient services to patients. These services can be provided (1) by the hospital or its subsidiaries, (2) by the hospital's health system (in local network), or (3) by another institution outside of the health system, but in the local network, through a formal contractual arrangement or joint venture.
- Patient Safety Score. PSI08 was removed from the patient safety score due to low prevalence. A risk-adjusted rather than a smoothed rate is used, to address concerns that the smoothed rate might over-adjust for differences between hospitals.

#### Summary of 2014-2015 Changes

- Component weighting. The weight for the process component was reduced from 32.5% to 27.5% and the weight for the patient safety score was increased from 5% to 10%. This was done in recognition of the increased importance of patient safety to the quality of care provided by hospitals.
- **Technology**. Cardiac ICU was removed in Cardiology & Heart Surgery, as it already served as a requirement for hospitals to be eligible for ranking in this specialty. IMRT was added as a new technology to the Cancer and Urology specialties, recognizing the importance of this treatment modality to care in both specialties.
- Patient Safety Score. Two patient safety indicators were added to the patient safety score due to the availability of the POA indicator in the MedPAR dataset. Additionally, for display purposes, PSIs were converted from a 3-point scale to a 5-point scale to provide more nuanced information to consumers on the differences in patient safety performance between hospitals. For scoring, we now use a continuous value for PSI rather than a discrete value shown in the ranking tables.
- **MS-DRG deletions.** MS-DRG 689 (Kidney and Urinary Tract Infections with MCC) was removed from the Urology specialty because it does not reflect the quality of care of a urology service. A review of hospital data showed that the code is frequently used by other specialties within the institution to identify significant medical comorbidities rather than for identifying performance by the institution's urology service.

• Eligibility for expert opinion-based specialties. In previous years, a hospital was eligible if it received one or more physician nominations in the past 3 years. In 2014-15, a hospital was eligible for an expert opinion-based specialty only if it had an expert opinion score of 1% or greater. This change was made to restrict eligibility to hospitals that are more consistently nominated.

#### Summary of 2013–2014 Changes

- "Present on admission" data included in patient safety calculations. Starting with the 2013-14 rankings, patient safety data were analyzed using the AHRQ PSI grouper software version 4.3. This version of the software incorporates POA data found in Medicare claims. This allows the software to remove cases where POA is indicated so that they do not count against a hospital in the assessment of patient safety events.
- Neurology & Neurosurgery MS-DRG deletions. Several procedures involving spinal fusion (MS-DRGs 028, 029, 030, 453, 453, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 471, 472, 473, 490, and 491) were removed from the Neurology & Neurosurgery but retained in the Orthopedic specialty. The change was made to reflect the specialty that patients typically turn to when seeking spinal fusion procedures. This change also eliminated a redundancy in the coverage of these procedures in the rankings. As a result, these procedures are covered in the orthopedic specialty regardless of whether the surgery was performed by an orthopedic surgeon or neurosurgeon.

### Summary of 2012-2013 Changes

- Surgical volume discharge minimums. If the minimum total discharge value for a specialty was lower than 25, then 25 was set as the minimum for that specialty to ensure a sufficient number of discharges.
- **Normalization.** Normalization is the process of transforming index values into a distribution between 0 and 1 based on the range of possible values for a given measure. Individual measures were normalized before incorporating into the overall score. In previous years, standardization was used instead of normalization.
- New weighting procedures for structural measures. In previous years, factor analysis determined the relative weights of the structural measures. Starting in 2012-13, weights are based on the relative significance of each measure.
- Expert Opinion. In previous years, the hospital with the highest expert opinion score received the full point total (i.e., 32.5 points) for the expert opinion component. Starting in 2012-13, hospitals received a normalized expert opinion score. For example, if the highest expert opinion score in a given specialty is 80%, the hospital receives a normalized score of 0.80. Since expert opinion is worth 32.5% of the overall score, the hospital receives 0.80 x 32.5, or 26 points, for expert opinion instead of the full 32.5 points possible.

- Survey response weighting. Beginning in 2012-13, we calculated expert opinion values for each year of the survey independently and averaged the 3 years rather than pooling nominations across years. This was done to reduce the year-to-year fluctuation of expert opinion scores within specialties.
- **Honor Roll.** The methodology for assigning Honor Roll points was revised. For data-driven specialties, hospitals received 2 points for ranking among the top 10 hospitals and 1 point for ranking in the next 10 (i.e., 11–20). For expert opinion-based specialties, hospitals received 2 points for ranking in among the top 5 and 1 point for ranking in the next 5 (i.e., 6–10).

### Summary of 2011-2012 Changes

- **Ties allowed.** For 2011-12, we instituted a new rule that allows for ranking ties for hospitals with the same score. Previously, ties were not allowed and were broken by examining the scores out to 3 decimal points.
- Cut-offs for expert opinion-based specialties. In previous years, hospitals representing 3% or more of the total nominations in a specialty were published in print for the expert opinion-based specialties. For the 2011-12 rankings, this was revised to 5% to be more discerning.
- Mortality displayed as survival scores. The values displayed in the rankings tables for mortality were changed from mortality ratios to decile-based survival scores. The top 10% of hospitals—with the lowest relative mortality and highest 30-day survival—received a survival score value of 10; the next 10% of hospitals received a value of 9, and so on. The method for using the mortality scores to calculate the score did not change from that used in 2010.
- Updated scoring for the Patient Safety Index. The Patient Safety Index was revised to include 6 rather than 7 indicators (PSI 02: Death in low-mortality DRGs is no longer included). The approach to weighting individual PSIs also changed from the population at risk to equal weighting. The index scoring was also updated from the quintile scoring used in 2009-10 to a new 3-point scale that represents ≥ 75<sup>th</sup> percentile, 25<sup>th</sup>−74<sup>th</sup> percentile and < 25<sup>th</sup> percentile.

# Summary of 2010-2011 Changes

- Expert opinion scores transformed. Implemented a new log transformation of the expert opinion survey data prior to standardization. This change will allow expert opinion scores to cluster more, reducing the overall impact of this component on the final hospital ranking.
- **MS-DRGs** incorporated. The 3M Health Information Systems MS Grouper software was run on all 3 years of data included in the analyses, and we revised the assignment of cases to specialties using the MS-DRGs.

- Change in structural volume measure. The criteria used to determine volume for the structural variable have now changed to include only those cases meeting the minimum severity of illness thresholds set by the project using APR-DRGs and includes transfers; previously, this measure focused on all discharges for DRGs used by the project and excluded transfers. This change will allow the volume measure to more accurately reflect the actual volume of cases according to the specialty definitions.
- Codes identifying transfers for mortality calculation revised. As in previous years, transfers were identified using the claim source of inpatient admission variable on the MedPAR files. In past years, transfers were identified based on the value "4" for transfer from an acute hospital. This year the variable value "A" for transfer from critical access hospital was also used.
- Low-discharge hospitals adjustment changed. We revised the method for adjusting the scores for hospitals with low discharges on both volume and mortality. In previous years, we used an inverse-logit transformation. Starting in 2010, for hospitals with a discharge volume below the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile, we adjusted the observed volume score and transfer-free mortality rate by creating an average weight based on the hospital's observed score and the score for all hospitals at or above the 25th percentile in volume.
- "Outlier" transfer data adjusted. We adjusted the observed transfer-free mortality rate for hospitals in the top and bottom quartiles of transfer-in rates to account for the fact that some hospitals may have had too many or too few cases included in the mortality calculations due to poor or inaccurate coding of administrative data.

# **Summary of 2009 Changes**

- Eligibility criteria updated. Hospitals with a minimum number of hospital beds may now be eligible for the rankings.
- **Key technologies updated.** The elements in this index were updated for a few specialties to remain consistent with the key technologies expected from a best hospital.
- **Intensivist on staff added.** Hospitals now receive credit in all data-driven specialties for having intensivists on staff.
- Patient Safety Index added. A Best Hospitals Patient Safety Index was created and applied to all data-driven specialties.
- **DRG groupings updated.** DRG groupings were updated for all data-driven specialties, consistent with typical year-to-year changes.
- **Physician survey.** The following instruction was removed from the physician survey: "Please do not list any hospital where you currently practice." Physicians

likely choose to work at a certain hospital because it is a best hospital. Therefore, it was deemed acceptable for them to vote for the hospital where they work.

#### **Summary of 2008 Changes**

- Advanced technologies updated. The elements in this index were updated for a few specialties to remain consistent with the advanced technologies expected from a best hospital.
- Patient services updated. The elements in these services were updated for a few specialties to remain consistent with the patient services expected from a best hospital.
- Trauma center certification dropped. Trauma center certification was dropped from the Gynecology specialty.
- Alzheimer's disease center added. This element was added to the Neurology & Neurosurgery specialty.
- **30-day mortality rates added for Cancer.** Thirty-days-from-admission mortality rates were introduced in all data-driven specialties except Cancer in 2007. For 2010-11, 30-day mortality was used in Cancer as well.

#### **Summary of 2007 Changes**

Changes for 2007 were more substantial but still in keeping with the goal of maintaining consistency and continuity. Many of the changes were discussed at length at a day-long meeting convened by U.S. News in fall 2006 to solicit the views of a Best Hospitals advisory panel of approximately 40 invitees. The panelists represented top hospitals and brought expertise in areas such as clinical care, healthcare data analyses and quality research. Several representatives from key trade/industry organizations also participated.

- External organizations added. Hospitals in the Cancer specialty now receive
  points for accreditation by FACT as a Cellular Therapy Facility. Hospitals in
  Geriatrics now receive points if they are recognized by NIA for having an
  Alzheimer's center.
- **DRG groupings updated.** DRG groupings were updated for all specialties, consistent with typical year-to-year changes.
- Transfers excluded. Patients transferred into a hospital from another hospital are excluded from mortality and volume calculations to reduce the likelihood of either benefiting or suffering from "dumping" of patients.

- **30-day mortality introduced.** Thirty-days-from-admission mortality rates were introduced in all data-driven specialties (except Cancer) instead of death-at-discharge mortality rates.
- Mortality data weighted. Weights were applied to the MedPAR data based on the relative over- or underrepresentation of the cases' DRGs among all patients, as identified in the HCUP data.
- **Neonatologists moved.** Neonatologists were removed from the Gynecology sample and included in the Pediatrics sample instead.
- **Physician survey.** An additional instruction was added to the physician survey: "Please do not list any hospital where you currently practice."
- Geriatrics. This specialty ranking, which was not published in 2006, was reintroduced using a new approach to identify the target population and account for their mortality rates. Rather than using a small subset of MS-DRGs typical of geriatric patients, we elected to focus on how well hospitals treat older patients across a wide range of MS-DRGs. The Geriatrics specialty rankings now include all MS-DRGs generally appropriate to a Medicare or elderly population, but for the outcomes analysis, only patients who are at least 75 years of age are included.

#### Summary of 2005 and 2006 Changes

To maintain consistency in the previous ranking process, RTI replicated the preexisting methodology in the 2005 rankings and implemented only minor operational improvements in 2006.

# Appendix D 2024-2025 Best Hospitals Rankings, Data-Driven Specialties

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Rank 1	Hospital University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston	100.0	<b>ო</b> 5	<b>5</b>	5	<b>2</b> 13,354	<b>2</b> 1.9	Yes	<b>∢</b>   8	8 8	1	Yes	<b>⋖</b> 2	ш 28.8	Yes
2	Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York	93.1	5	5	5	6,890	2.4	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	28.3	Yes
3	Mayo Clinic-Rochester, Minn.	84.1	5	5	5	4,236	2.7	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	12.6	Yes
4 5	Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women's Cancer Center, Boston City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center, Duarte, Calif.	81.3 78.8	5 5	5 5	5	4,140 2,234	2.2 1.9	Yes Yes	8	8	1	Yes Yes	2	16.6 4.5	Yes Yes
6	Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore	78.3	5	5	4	2,219	2.8	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	7.2	Yes
7	UCSF Health-UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco	77.6	5	5	4	2,835	2.2	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	4.8	Yes
8	Mount Sinai Hospital, New York UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles	76.5 76.1	5 5	5 5	3	2,436 2,065	2.3	Yes Yes	8	8	1	Yes Yes	2	3.5	Yes Yes
10	Hospitals of the U. of Pennsylvania-Penn Presbyterian, Philadelphia	75.9	5	5	5	3,592	2.7	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	5.6	Yes
11	Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston	74.9	5	5	5	3,474	2.4	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	7.0	Yes
12 13	University of Chicago Medical Center Stanford Health Care-Stanford Hospital, Palo Alto, Calif.	73.9 73.8	5 5	5 5	4	2,353 2,823	2.5	Yes	8	8	1	Yes Yes	2	3.5 4.1	Yes Yes
14	Cleveland Clinic	73.4	5	5	4	3,457	2.1	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	5.3	Yes
15	New York-Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia and Cornell	72.3	5	5	3	4,966	2.8	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	3.5	Yes
16 17	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles Perlmutter Cancer Center at NYU Langone Hospitals, New York	70.7     70.4	5 5	5 5	4	2,022 3,300	2.8	Yes Yes	8	8	1	No Yes	2	1.1	Yes Yes
18	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston	70.2	5	5	3	2,337	1.2	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	0.7	Yes
18 20	Houston Methodist Hospital Northwestern Medicine-Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago	70.2   69.8	5 5	5 5	4	2,046 2,686	2.0	Yes	8	8	1	No Yes	2	0.3 2.6	Yes Yes
21	Mayo Clinic-Arizona, Phoenix	69.0	5	5	5	1,693	3.4	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	1.9	Yes
22	USC Norris Cancer Hospital-Keck Medical Center of USC, Los Angeles	68.8	5	5	5	1,304	2.8	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	0.9	Yes
23 24	Siteman Cancer Center at Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis Mayo Clinic-Florida, Jacksonville	68.7   68.6	5 5	5 5	4	4,567 1,558	1.4 2.5	Yes	8	8	1	Yes Yes	2	3.3	Yes Yes
25	UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas	68.2	5	5	5	2,496	2.2	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	1.4	Yes
26	North Shore University Hospital at Northwell Health, Manhasset, N.Y.	67.0	5	5	3	1,937	2.8	Yes	8	8	1	No	2	0.3	Yes
27 28	H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute, Tampa, Fla.  UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside, Pittsburgh	66.9 65.1	5 5	5 5	5 4	2,644 4,528	1.3 2.0	Yes	8	8	1	Yes Yes	2	5.3 1.9	Yes Yes
29	Rush University Medical Center, Chicago	64.2	5	5	4	1,804	1.9	Yes	8	8	1	No	2	0.5	Yes
30	Duke University Hospital, Durham, N.C.	64.1	5	5	4	2,562	2.1	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	3.6	Yes
31 32	OHSU Hospital-Knight Cancer Institute, Portland, Ore. Ohio State University James Cancer Hospital, Columbus	64.0	5 5	5 5	4	1,571 4,143	2.1	Yes Yes	8	8	1	Yes Yes	2	0.4	Yes Yes
33	Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pa.	62.6	5	5	4	1,063	2.6	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	1.2	Yes
34 35	University of Michigan Health Rogel Cancer Center, Ann Arbor University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center, Cleveland	62.4 61.9	4 5	5 5	4	2,420 2,005	2.5 2.5	Yes Yes	8	8	1	Yes Yes	2	2.8 0.7	Yes Yes
36	University of Kentucky Markey Cancer Center, Lexington	61.7	5	5	4	1,473	1.8	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	0.7	Yes
37	UC Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, Calif.	61.6	5	5	3	1,635	2.8	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	0.6	Yes
38 39	U. of Colorado Cancer Center-UCHealth U. of Colorado Hospital, Aurora Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, N.Y.	61.5	5 5	5 4	3 2	1,825 2,282	2.0	Yes Yes	8	8	0	Yes Yes	2	1.1 0.8	Yes Yes
40	University of Alabama at Birmingham Hospital, Birmingham	60.5	5	5	4	2,516	2.0	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	1.2	Yes
41	University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City	60.3	5	5	3	2,137	1.6	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	0.4	Yes
42 43	UC San Diego Health-Moores Cancer Center Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center/U. of Washington Medical Center, Seattle	60.2 59.9	5 4	5 5	4	2,042 2,533	2.2 1.8	Yes Yes	8	8	1	Yes Yes	2	1.4 4.4	Yes Yes
44	Hackensack U. Med. Ctr. at Hackensack Meridian Hlth., Hackensack, N.J.	59.7	5	5	3	2,679	2.4	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	0.2	Yes
45	Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center, Omaha, Neb.	58.9	5	5	3	1,338	2.0	Yes	8	8	1	Yes	2	0.1	Yes
45 47	Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale New Haven, Conn. University of Maryland Medical Center, Baltimore	58.9 58.2	5 5	5 5	3	2,980 1,167	2.2	Yes Yes	8	8	1	Yes Yes	2	1.7 0.5	Yes Yes
48	Tampa General Hospital, Fla.	58.1	5	5	3	1,198	2.4	Yes	7	8	1	No	0	0.4	Yes
49 49	Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas University of Kansas Hospital, Kansas City	58.0	5 5	5 5	4	1,573	1.8	Yes	8	8	1	No	2	0.3	Yes
49	oniversity of halisas hospital, halisas City	58.0	3	3	4	2,537	2.0	Yes	8	0	1	Yes	2	0.5	Yes

	Cardiology, Heart & Vascular Surgery			O											Magnet hospital		
Rank I	Hospital	U.S. News Specialty Score	30-day survival	Discharging patients to home	Patient experience	Number of patients	Nurse staffing	Intensivists	Public transparency	STS transparency	ACC transparency	Advanced technologies	Patient services	Trauma center	Recognized as Nurse Magne	Expert opinion	Current AHA responder
	Cleveland Clinic	100.0	5	5	4	18,386	2.1	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	No	1	24.0	Yes
	NYU Langone Hospitals, New York	97.8	5	5	4	18,693	2.3	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	4.3	Yes
	Mayo Clinic-Rochester, Minn.	95.8	5	5	5	13,102	2.7	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	20.6	Yes
	Mount Sinai Hospital, New York New York-Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia and Cornell	94.6	5 5	5	3	15,046 19,009	2.3 2.8	Yes Yes	3	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	6	8	No Yes	1	3.6 9.2	Yes Yes
	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles	93.6	5	5	4	11,246	2.8	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	7.5	Yes
	Northwestern Medicine-Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago	90.4	5	5	4	6,950	2.0	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	4.1	Yes
8 M	Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston	89.2	5	5	5	10,591	2.4	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	9.7	Yes
	Hospitals of the U. of Pennsylvania-Penn Presbyterian, Philadelphia	85.2	5	5	5	12,122	2.7	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	5.1	Yes
	ohns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore	83.7	5	5	4	4,213	2.8	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	5.7	Yes
	Stanford Health Care-Stanford Hospital, Palo Alto, Calif.	81.6 80.8	5 5	5 5	4	5,861	2.2	Yes Yes	3	Yes Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	4.8 0.8	Yes
	North Shore University Hospital at Northwell Health, Manhasset, N.Y. Rush University Medical Center, Chicago	80.8	5	5	4	11,547 3,660	1.9	Yes	3	Yes	Yes Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	Yes Yes
	enox Hill Hospital at Northwell Health, New York	79.5	5	5	3	7,141	2.1	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	5	8	No	1	0.9	Yes
	Houston Methodist Hospital	78.9	5	5	4	9,680	2.0	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	No	1	2.9	Yes
16 B	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston	77.5	5	5	4	8,007	2.2	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	7.6	Yes
	JCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles	74.9	5	5	4	4,595	2.9	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	3.6	Yes
	Mount Sinai Morningside and Mount Sinai West Hospitals, New York	74.4	5	5	2	4,999	1.9	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	5	8	Yes	0	0.8	Yes
	Fexas Heart Institute at Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center, Houston  Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, N.Y.	73.0 72.6	5 5	5 5	3	7,599 11,508	1.9 2.1	Yes Yes	3	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	6	8	No Yes	0	2.6 1.1	Yes Yes
	Jniversity of Michigan Health Frankel Cardiovascular Center, Ann Arbor	72.5	5	5	4	7,629	2.5	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	3.4	Yes
	JT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas	72.5	5	5	5	4,724	2.2	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	No	ī	2.0	Yes
23 S	Scripps La Jolla Hospitals, La Jolla, Calif.	72.1	5	5	4	8,959	2.3	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	5	8	Yes	1	0.9	Yes
24 U	JCSF Health-UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco	71.1	5	5	4	3,299	2.2	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	No	1	2.8	Yes
	Corewell Health William Beaumont University Hospital, Royal Oak, Mich.	70.5	5	5	3	9,794	1.7	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	5	8	Yes	1	0.6	Yes
	Duke University Hospital, Durham, N.C.	70.5	5	5	4	8,076	2.1	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	6.6	Yes
	Mayo Clinic-Arizona, Phoenix	69.7 69.7	5 5	5	5	4,093 4,458	3.4 2.2	Yes Yes	3	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	6	8	No Yes	1	2.2 1.0	Yes Yes
	JC San Diego Health-Cardiovascular Institute St. Francis Hospital and Heart Center, Roslyn, N.Y.	69.4	5	5	4	12,920	1.8	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	5	8	No	1	0.5	Yes
	Advocate Christ Medical Center, Oak Lawn, Ill.	69.1	5	5	3	8,851	2.1	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	0.3	Yes
	Baylor Scott and White The Heart Hospital Plano, Texas	69.1	5	5	5	8,431	2.6	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	5	8	No	1	0.8	Yes
32 U	University of Chicago Medical Center	68.8	5	5	4	5,114	2.5	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.4	Yes
	Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis	68.3	5	5	4	6,956	1.4	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	2.8	Yes
	/anderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tenn.	66.8	5	5	4	8,385	2.2	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	3.6	Yes
	Keck Medical Center of USC, Los Angeles	66.4	5	5	4	2,357	2.8	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	No	1	0.6	Yes
	JC Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, Calif. Nayo Clinic-Florida, Jacksonville	66.4 66.3	5 5	5 5	3 5	3,770 3,473	2.8 2.5	Yes Yes	3	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	5 6	8	Yes No	1	0.4 1.8	Yes Yes
	MedStar Heart & Vascular Institute at MedStar Washington Hosp. Center	66.2	5	5	2	10,924	2.2	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	0	1.4	Yes
	New York-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital, Brooklyn	65.9	5	5	NA	4,023	1.7	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	5	8	Yes	0	0.1	Yes
	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston	65.5	5	5	3	7,536	1.2	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	5	7	Yes	1	1.3	Yes
	Hackensack U. Med. Ctr. at Hackensack Meridian Hlth., Hackensack, N.J.	64.8	5	5	3	6,253	2.4	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	5	8	Yes	1	0.3	Yes
	/CU Medical Center, Richmond, Va.	64.6	5	5	3	5,010	1.5	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	0.6	Yes
	Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Columbus	64.5	5	5	4	7,949	2.0	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.4	Yes
	'ale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Conn. Fampa General Hospital, Fla.	64.5 64.4	5	5	3	10,892 6,562	2.2	Yes Yes	3	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	6	8	Yes Yes	1	1.6 0.4	Yes Yes
	Jniversity of Kansas Hospital, Kansas City	63.9	5 5	5 5	4	7,525	2.4	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	0.4	Yes
	Orlando Health-Orlando Regional Medical Center, Fla.	63.7	5	5	3	14,593	1.3	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	5	8	Yes	1	0.2	Yes
	Sanford Medical Center Bismarck, N.D.	63.7	5	5	3	2,987	1.2	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	5	8	Yes	1	0.0	Yes
49 M	Morristown Medical Center, Morristown, N.J.	63.1	5	5	4	11,301	1.8	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	5	8	Yes	1	0.8	Yes
50 U	Jniversity of Alabama at Birmingham Hospital, Birmingham	62.5	5	5	4	8,021	2.0	Yes	3	Yes	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.5	Yes

Rank	Best Hospitals 2024-25: Diabetes & Endocrinology  Hospital	U.S. News Specialty Score	30-day survival	Discharging patients to home	Patient experience	Number of patients	Nurse staffing	Intensivists	Advanced technologies	Patient services	Recognized as Nurse Magnet hospital	Expert opinion	Current AHA responder
1	Mayo Clinic-Rochester, Minn.	100.0	5	5	5	1,252	2.7	Yes	4	8	1	21.9	Yes
2	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston	85.0	5	5	4	802	2.2	Yes	4	8	1	7.8	Yes
2	New York-Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia and Cornell	85.0	5	5	3	2,344	2.8	Yes	4	8	1	4.7	Yes
4	UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles	84.8	5	5	4	914	2.9	Yes	4	8	1	3.5	Yes
5	NYU Langone Hospitals, New York	83.5	5	5	4	2,316	2.3	Yes	4	8	1	2.5	Yes
6	Houston Methodist Hospital Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston	82.7 82.6	5 5	5 5	4 5	1,062 1,037	2.0	Yes Yes	4	8	1	0.7 16.3	Yes Yes
7 8	Northwestern Medicine-Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago	81.6	5	5	4	752	2.4	Yes	4	8	1	2.0	Yes
9	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles	78.9	5	5	4	982	2.8	Yes	4	8	1	2.1	Yes
10	North Shore University Hospital at Northwell Health, Manhasset, N.Y.	78.6	5	5	3	1,130	2.8	Yes	4	8	1	0.6	Yes
11	Long Island Jewish Med. Ctr. at Northwell Health, New Hyde Park, N.Y.	77.9	5	5	3	2,031	2.2	Yes	4	8	1	0.5	Yes
12	Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore	76.5	5	5	4	507	2.8	Yes	4	8	1	6.0	Yes
13	Mayo Clinic-Arizona, Phoenix	76.3	5	5	5	624	3.4	Yes	4	8	1	1.2	Yes
14	UCSF Health-UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco	75.0	5	5	4	647	2.2	Yes	4	8	1	6.8	Yes
15	UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas	73.6	5	5	5	702	2.2	Yes	4	8	1	1.5	Yes
16	Stanford Health Care-Stanford Hospital, Palo Alto, Calif.	73.5	5	5	4	720	2.2	Yes	4	8	1	1.3	Yes
17	Endeavor Health NorthShore Hospitals, Evanston, Ill.	73.3	5	5	4	1,282	1.0	Yes	4	8	1	0.1	Yes
17	Mount Sinai Hospital, New York	73.3	5	5	3	1,080	2.3	Yes	4	8	1	2.0	Yes
19	Hospitals of the U. of Pennsylvania-Penn Presbyterian, Philadelphia	71.6	5	5	5	872	2.7	Yes	4	8	1	3.8	Yes
20	Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, N.Y.	71.4	5	3	2	1,978	2.1	Yes	4	8	0	1.2	Yes
21	Rush University Medical Center, Chicago	71.0	5	5	4	678	1.9	Yes	4	8	1	0.3	Yes
22	Mayo Clinic-Florida, Jacksonville	70.9 69.3	5 5	5 5	5	624	2.5	Yes	4	8	1	1.7 4.6	Yes
23 24	Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis AdventHealth Orlando, Fla.	68.8	5	5	3	974 3,536	1.4 1.5	Yes Yes	4	8	1 0	0.1	Yes Yes
25	Hackensack U. Med. Ctr. at Hackensack Meridian Hlth., Hackensack, N.J.	68.3	5	5	3	731	2.4	Yes	4	8	1	0.2	Yes
26	Huntington Hospital at Northwell Health, Huntington, N.Y.	67.9	5	5	3	487	2.1	Yes	4	8	1	0.0	Yes
27	UCHealth University of Colorado Hospital, Aurora	67.8	5	5	3	667	2.0	Yes	4	8	1	5.1	Yes
28	New York-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital, Brooklyn	67.6	5	5	NA	919	1.7	Yes	4	8	0	0.0	Yes
29	Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Conn.	67.5	5	3	3	1,446	2.2	Yes	4	8	1	2.8	Yes
30	Corewell Health William Beaumont University Hospital, Royal Oak, Mich.	67.4	5	5	3	1,066	1.7	Yes	4	8	1	0.0	Yes
30	University of Chicago Medical Center	67.4	5	5	4	799	2.5	Yes	4	8	1	2.3	Yes
32	Cleveland Clinic	67.2	5	5	4	887	2.1	Yes	4	8	1	5.3	Yes
33	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston	66.4	5	5	3	668	1.2	Yes	4	8	1	2.5	Yes
34	UC San Diego Health-La Jolla and Hillcrest Hospitals	65.7	5	5	4	404	2.2	Yes	4	8	1	0.7	Yes
35	Tampa General Hospital, Fla.	65.5 65.0	5 5	5 5	3	1,070 736	2.4	Yes Yes	4	8	1	0.1	Yes
36 37	Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tenn. University of Michigan Health-Ann Arbor	64.6	5	5	4	709	2.5	Yes	4	8	1 1	1.9 5.1	Yes Yes
38	Scripps La Jolla Hospitals, La Jolla, Calif.	64.3	5	5	4	685	2.3	Yes	4	8	1	0.1	Yes
39	Baylor Scott and White All Saints Medical Center-Fort Worth, Texas	63.9	5	5	3	467	2.1	Yes	4	8	1	0.0	Yes
40	Mount Sinai Morningside and Mount Sinai West Hospitals, New York	63.8	5	5	2	902	1.9	Yes	4	8	0	0.5	Yes
41	UC Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, Calif.	63.5	5	5	3	529	2.8	Yes	4	8	1	0.1	Yes
42	Strong Memorial Hospital of the University of Rochester, N.Y.	63.4	5	5	3	682	1.7	Yes	4	8	1	1.0	Yes
43	UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside, Pittsburgh	63.2	5	5	4	997	2.0	Yes	4	8	1	1.5	Yes
44	Mount Sinai Beth Israel Hospital, New York	63.1	5	5	2	844	1.3	Yes	4	8	0	0.3	Yes
45	Orlando Health-Orlando Regional Medical Center, Fla.	61.8	5	2	3	1,446	1.3	Yes	4	8	1	0.0	Yes
46	Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas	61.2	5	5	4	708	1.8	Yes	4	8	1	0.2	Yes
46	St. Francis Hospital and Heart Center, Roslyn, N.Y.	61.2	5	5	4	456	1.8	Yes	4	8	1	0.0	Yes
48	Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center, Houston	60.8	5	5	3	521	1.9	Yes	4	8	1	0.7	Yes
48 50	Plainview Hospital at Northwell Health, Plainview, N.Y.  Queen's Medical Center, Honolulu	60.8	5 4	5 5	3	363 949	1.9	Yes	4	8	1	0.0	Yes
. 50	Queen a medical center, Honoldia	60.7	7	ر	, +	) <del>) 1</del> 3	1.9	Yes	, 7	į o		0.0	Yes

	Best Hospitals 2024-25: Ear, Nose & Throat	News Specialty Score	30-day survival	ging patients to home	Prevention of outpatient procedural complications	experience	r of patients	staffing	vists	ed technologies	services	center	ignized as Nurse Magnet hospital	opinion	: AHA responder
Rank	Hospital	U.S. Ne	30-day	Dischargin	Preventio complicat	Patient	Number	Nurse	Intensivists	Advanced	Patient	Trauma	Recogi	Expert	Current
1	UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles	100.0	5	5	3	4	1,587	2.9	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	6.4	Yes
2	University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston	95.9	5	5	1	5	2,244	1.9	Yes	1	8	No	1.0	3.7	Yes
3	Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore	88.2	5	5	2	4	940	2.8	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	10	Yes
4	Mayo Clinic-Rochester, Minn.	88.1	5	5	4	5	2,027	2.7	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	6.8	Yes
5	Stanford Health Care-Stanford Hospital, Palo Alto, Calif.	86.7	5	5	3	4	1,067	2.2	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	7.5	Yes
6	Mass Eye and Ear, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston	80.3	5	3	4	5	2,175	2.4	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	11.3	Yes
7	Hospitals of the U. of Pennsylvania-Penn Presbyterian, Philadelphia	75.3	5	3	3	5	1,642	2.7	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	7	Yes
8	University of Michigan Health-Ann Arbor	71.5	5	1 5	5	4	1,476	2.5	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	8.7	Yes
9	Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tenn.	70.7 69.3	4 5	3	2 5	4	1,710	2.2	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	9.2	Yes
10	NYU Langone Hospitals, New York University of Chicago Medical Center	69.3	5 5		4	4	1,013 671	2.3	Yes	1 1	8	Yes Yes	1.0	3.3 1.3	Yes
11 12	UCSF Health-UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco	65.6	5	4	2	4	1,207	2.2	Yes Yes	1	8	No	1.0	6.2	Yes Yes
13		65.1	5	4	4	3	1,345	2.8	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	3.5	Yes
14	New York-Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia and Cornell University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City	64.9	5	5	2	3	865	1.6	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	6.7	Yes
15	UC Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, Calif.	64.2	4	5	4	3	879	2.8	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	2.1	Yes
16	Northwestern Medicine-Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago	64.1	5	4	4	4	586	2.0	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	3	Yes
17	Long Island Jewish Med. Ctr. at Northwell Health, New Hyde Park, N.Y.	63.6	5	5	5	3	1,415	2.2	Yes	1	8	No	1.0	0.8	Yes
17	Mayo Clinic-Arizona, Phoenix	63.6	5	5	4	5	820	3.4	Yes	1	8	No	1.0	1.5	Yes
19	UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside, Pittsburgh	63.5	5	3	4	4	1,303	2	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	5	Yes
20	Jefferson Health-Thomas Jefferson U. Hospitals, Philadelphia, Pa.	62.4	4	5	1	3	1,764	2.3	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	4.2	Yes
21	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston	62.3	5	3	3	4	772	2.2	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	2.1	Yes
22	Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis	61.8	3	4	3	4	1,512	1.4	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	4.4	Yes
23	University of Alabama at Birmingham Hospital, Birmingham	61.7	4	5	1	4	1,939	2	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	2.5	Yes
24	Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York	61.3	4	5	1	5	851	2.4	Yes	1	8	No	1.0	1	Yes
25	Cleveland Clinic	60.1	5	3	3	4	1,576	2.1	Yes	1	8	No	1.0	4.7	Yes
26	UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas	59.9	5	5	3	5	924	2.2	Yes	1	8	No	1.0	1.4	Yes
27	Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Conn.	57.4	5	3	4	3	1,174	2.2	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	0.8	Yes
28	Rush University Medical Center, Chicago	56.4	5	5	2	4	826	1.9	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	0.7	Yes
29	OHSU Hospital, Portland, Ore.	56.1	5	3	1	4	1,139	2.1	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	1.9	Yes
30	UW Health University Hospital, Madison, Wis.	54.8	5	5	3	4	1,069	2.4	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	1	Yes
31	Tampa General Hospital, Fla.	54.7	4	5	3	3	893	2.4	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	0.8	Yes
32	Banner-University Medical Center Phoenix	54.4	5	5	5	3	873	1.8	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	0.1	Yes
33	Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Columbus	54.3	3	3	1	4	1,809	2	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	7.2	Yes
34	Manhattan Eye, Ear & Throat Hospital, New York	53.9	5	3	5	3	485	2.1	Yes	1	8	No	1.0	0.8	Yes
35	UF Health Shands Hospital, Gainesville, Fla.	53.0	5		2	4	1,297	1.7	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	1.4	Yes
36	MUSC Health-University Medical Center, Charleston, S.C.	52.5	5	5	2	3	1,189	1.4	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	3.9	Yes
37	University of Kentucky Albert B. Chandler Hospital, Lexington	52.0	3 5	5	3	4	935	1.8	Yes	1	8 8	Yes	1.0	1.2	Yes
38	Keck Medical Center of USC, Los Angeles Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles	51.8 50.5	3	5	5	4	690 607	2.8	Yes	1	8	No	1.0 1.0	1 1	Yes
39 40	UC San Diego Health-La Jolla and Hillcrest Hospitals	49.7	5	3	4	4	745	2.8	Yes Yes	1	8	Yes Yes	1.0	1.1 2	Yes Yes
41	Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Hershey, Pa.	49.7	5	3	5	4	482	2.2	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	0.6	Yes
	University of Kansas Hospital, Kansas City	49.3	5	3	3	4	1,360	2	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	2.4	Yes
43	University of Maryland Medical Center, Baltimore	48.9	5	3	2	4	775	2	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	1.1	Yes
44	UNC Hospitals, Chapel Hill, N.C.	48.1	5	5	3	4	1,372	1.5	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	3.4	Yes
45	Duke University Hospital, Durham, N.C.	48.0	5	5	3	4	605	2.1	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	1.8	Yes
46	Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit	46.8	5	3	5	3	664	2.1	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	1.4	Yes
47	AdventHealth Orlando, Fla.	45.9	4	5	2	3	1,675	1.5	Yes	1	8	No	0.0	0.1	Yes
48	MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, Washington	45.6	4	4	5	3	324	1.7	Yes	1	8	No	1.0	0.7	Yes
49	Mayo Clinic-Florida, Jacksonville	44.6	5	5	2	5	598	2.5	Yes	1	8	No	1.0	1.2	Yes
	University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center	44.6	4	2	2	3	1,077	2.5	Yes	1	8	Yes	1.0	1.2	Yes
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Rank	Best Hospitals 2024-25: Gastroenterology & GI Surgery  Hospital	U.S. News Specialty Score	30-day survival	Discharging patients to home	Patient experience	Number of patients	Nurse staffing	Intensivists	Advanced technologies	Patient services	Trauma center	Recognized as Nurse Magnet hospital	Expert opinion	Current AHA responder
1	Mayo Clinic-Rochester, Minn.	100.0	5	5	5	8,154	2.7	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	21.1	Yes
2	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles	91.4	5	5	4	5,875	2.8	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	5.2	Yes
3	Cleveland Clinic	86.8	5	5	4	6,804	2.1	Yes	7	8	No	1	12.4	Yes
4	UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles	86.7	5	5	4	3,783	2.9	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	6.0	Yes
5	NYU Langone Hospitals, New York	85.8	5	5	4	10,196	2.3	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	4.2	Yes
6	Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore	85.6	5	5	4	2,999	2.8	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	6.2	Yes
8	Houston Methodist Hospital Mount Sinai Hospital, New York	85.4 83.9	5 5	5 5	4	6,076 4,763	2.0	Yes Yes	7	8	No No	1 1	1.1	Yes
9	Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston	83.3	5	5	5	5,890	2.3	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	7.6	Yes
10	New York-Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia and Cornell	82.2	5	5	3	10,137	2.8	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	5.0	Yes
10	Northwestern Medicine-Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago	82.2	5	5	4	3,945	2.0	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	5.5	Yes
12	Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York	80.7	5	5	5	5,312	2.4	Yes	6	8	No	1	1.5	Yes
13	Hospitals of the U. of Pennsylvania-Penn Presbyterian, Philadelphia	80.4	5	5	5	4,960	2.7	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	4.3	Yes
14	University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston	79.9	5	5	5	4,701	1.9	Yes	6	8	No	1	1.4	Yes
15	Tampa General Hospital, Fla.	79.5	5	5	3	3,858	2.4	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	0.7	Yes
16	North Shore University Hospital at Northwell Health, Manhasset, N.Y.	79.4	5	5	3	5,188	2.8	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	0.6	Yes
17	Stanford Health Care-Stanford Hospital, Palo Alto, Calif.	79.1	5	5	4	4,233	2.2	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	2.0	Yes
18 19	UCSF Health-UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco Keck Medical Center of USC, Los Angeles	79.0 78.7	5 5	5 5	4	2,817 1,774	2.2	Yes Yes	7	8	No No	1	4.2 1.4	Yes Yes
20	Mayo Clinic-Arizona, Phoenix	78.3	5	5	5	3,367	3.4	Yes	7	8	No	1	4.3	Yes
21	Mayo Clinic-Florida, Jacksonville	78.2	5	5	5	3,330	2.5	Yes	7	8	No	1	3.7	Yes
22	Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis	78.1	5	5	4	5,664	1.4	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	3.8	Yes
23	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston	78.0	5	5	4	4,998	2.2	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	4.1	Yes
24	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston	77.9	5	5	3	4,302	1.2	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	2.7	Yes
25	University of Chicago Medical Center	77.5	5	5	4	3,353	2.5	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	3.3	Yes
26	UC San Diego Health-La Jolla and Hillcrest Hospitals	75.2	5	5	4	3,136	2.2	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	2.2	Yes
27	University of Michigan Health-Ann Arbor	74.0	5	5	4	4,210	2.5	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	5.1	Yes
28	Rush University Medical Center, Chicago	73.8 73.7	5 5	5 5	3	2,420	1.9	Yes	7	8	Yes Yes	1	0.2	Yes
29 30	Corewell Health William Beaumont University Hospital, Royal Oak, Mich.  UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas	72.9	5	5	5	5,183 3,294	1.7 2.2	Yes Yes	7	8	No	1	2.0	Yes
31	Jefferson Health-Thomas Jefferson U. Hospitals, Philadelphia, Pa.	72.6	5	5	3	3,869	2.3	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	1.5	Yes
32	Duke University Hospital, Durham, N.C.	72.4	5	5	4	4,057	2.1	Yes	7	8	Yes	ī	3.2	Yes
33	St. Francis Hospital and Heart Center, Roslyn, N.Y.	72.2	5	5	4	3,440	1.8	Yes	6	8	No	1	0.1	Yes
34	Scripps La Jolla Hospitals, La Jolla, Calif.	71.9	5	5	4	4,287	2.3	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	0.3	Yes
35	Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas	71.6	5	5	4	4,024	1.8	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	0.8	Yes
36	OHSU Hospital, Portland, Ore.	71.5	5	5	4	2,192	2.1	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	0.5	Yes
37	UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside, Pittsburgh	71.2	5	5	4	6,222	2.0	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	2.4	Yes
38	Long Island Jewish Med. Ctr. at Northwell Health, New Hyde Park, N.Y.	69.9	5	5	3	5,799	2.2	Yes	6	8	No	1	0.4	Yes
39 40	UW Health University Hospital, Madison, Wis. Cleveland Clinic Weston	69.4 69.3	5 5	5 5	4	3,260 2,933	2.4	Yes Yes	7	8	Yes No	1 0	0.9	Yes
41	Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center, Houston	68.5	5	5 5	3	3,007	1.9	Yes	7	8	No	1	1.4	Yes
42	Huntington Health Medical Center-Pasadena, Calif.	68.0	5	5	4	2,546	2.7	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	0.1	Yes
43	Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tenn.	67.3	5	5	4	4,423	2.2	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	2.0	Yes
44	Morristown Medical Center, Morristown, N.J.	67.1	5	5	4	4,400	1.8	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	0.3	Yes
45	Froedtert Hospital and the Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	66.9	5	5	4	4,070	1.5	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	0.5	Yes
46	California Pacific Medical Center-Van Ness Campus, San Francisco	66.7	5	5	4	2,366	2.1	Yes	7	8	No	0	0.1	Yes
47	Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Hershey, Pa.	66.2	5	5	4	2,860	2.0	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	0.4	Yes
48	Nebraska Medicine-Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha	66.1	5	5	3	2,643	2.0	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	0.3	Yes
49	Advocate Christ Medical Center, Oak Lawn, Ill.	65.9	5	5	3	3,460	2.1	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	0.1	Yes
50	Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Conn.	65.8	5	5	3	5,581	2.2	Yes	7	8	Yes	1	1.9	Yes

	Best Hospitals 2024-25: Geriatrics									Magnet hospital	center		
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Rank	Hospital					ž	ž	ᇤ	<b>P</b>	~~	Z	ũ	ರ
1	Mount Sinai Hospital, New York	100.0	5	5	3	27,871	2.3	Yes	9	1	Yes	13.9	Yes
2	NYU Langone Hospitals, New York	98.8	5	5	4	60,460	2.3	Yes	9	1	Yes	1.6	Yes
3 4	UCSF Health-UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco Mayo Clinic-Rochester, Minn.	97.9 95.9	5 5	5 5	4	12,192 30,670	2.2 2.7	Yes	9	1 1	Yes Yes	10.1 5.2	Yes Yes
5	UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles	92.6	5	5	4	18,024	2.9	Yes	9	1	No	15.3	Yes
6	Cleveland Clinic	91.9	5	5	4	24,031	2.1	Yes	9	1	Yes	3.8	Yes
7	Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore	89.9	5	5	4	10,390	2.8	Yes	9	1	Yes	4.5	Yes
8	New York-Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia and Cornell	89.5	5	5	3	62,916	2.8	Yes	9	1	Yes	2.5	Yes
9 10	Hospitals of the U. of Pennsylvania-Penn Presbyterian, Philadelphia	89.2	5 5	5 5	5	20,714	2.7	Yes Yes	9	1 1	Yes	2.3	Yes Yes
11	Rush University Medical Center, Chicago Northwestern Medicine-Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago	88.2 88.1	5	5	4	11,174 17,126	1.9 2.0	Yes	9	1	Yes Yes	1.0 1.1	Yes
12	Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston	86.7	5	5	5	27,509	2.4	Yes	9	1	Yes	2.9	Yes
13	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles	85.4	5	5	4	31,588	2.8	Yes	9	1	No	0.7	Yes
14	North Shore University Hospital at Northwell Health, Manhasset, N.Y.	83.3	5	5	3	36,974	2.8	Yes	9	1	No	1.3	Yes
15	Stanford Health Care-Stanford Hospital, Palo Alto, Calif.	83.0	5	5	4	17,612	2.2	Yes	9	1	Yes	0.9	Yes
16 17	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston Keck Medical Center of USC, Los Angeles	82.9 82.4	5 5	5 5	4	20,645 5,386	2.2	Yes Yes	9	1	Yes Yes	1.7 0.4	Yes Yes
18	Houston Methodist Hospital	81.8	5	5	4	25,284	2.0	Yes	9	1	No	0.5	Yes
19	UC San Diego Health-La Jolla and Hillcrest Hospitals	80.5	5	5	4	12,165	2.2	Yes	9	1	Yes	2.2	Yes
20	Mayo Clinic-Arizona, Phoenix	80.2	5	5	5	12,928	3.4	Yes	8	1	Yes	0.5	Yes
21	University of Michigan Health-Ann Arbor	79.1	5	5	4	15,860	2.5	Yes	9	1	Yes	3.6	Yes
22	St. Francis Hospital and Heart Center, Roslyn, N.Y.	76.0	5	5	4	25,242	1.8	Yes	8	1	No	0.1	Yes
23 24	Lenox Hill Hospital at Northwell Health, New York Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis	75.6 75.2	5 5	5 5	3	18,313 19,579	2.1 1.4	Yes Yes	9	1 1	No Yes	0.7 1.0	Yes Yes
24	UC Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, Calif.	75.2	5	5	3	10,642	2.8	Yes	9	1	Yes	0.6	Yes
26	Mayo Clinic-Florida, Jacksonville	75.1	5	5	5	11,572	2.5	Yes	8	1	Yes	0.9	Yes
27	UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas	75.0	5	5	5	13,488	2.2	Yes	9	1	No	0.6	Yes
28	Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Conn.	74.4	5	5	3	33,886	2.2	Yes	9	1	Yes	3.1	Yes
29	Long Island Jewish Med. Ctr. at Northwell Health, New Hyde Park, N.Y.	73.9	5	5	3	38,722	2.2	Yes	9	1	No	0.9	Yes
30 31	Duke University Hospital, Durham, N.C. Huntington Hospital at Northwell Health, Huntington, N.Y.	73.8     72.7	5 5	5 5	3	16,815 17,103	2.1	Yes Yes	9	1	Yes No	5.6 0.4	Yes Yes
32	University of Kansas Hospital, Kansas City	71.8	5	5	4	15,887	2.0	Yes	8	1	Yes	0.1	Yes
33	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston	70.9	5	5	3	19,519	1.2	Yes	9	1	No	2.5	Yes
34	Corewell Health William Beaumont University Hospital, Royal Oak, Mich.	70.5	5	5	3	29,500	1.7	Yes	9	1	No	0.4	Yes
34	Hackensack U. Med. Ctr. at Hackensack Meridian Hlth., Hackensack, N.J.	70.5	5	5	3	20,632	2.4	Yes	9	1	No	0.8	Yes
36	UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside, Pittsburgh	70.1	5	5	4	20,475	2.0	Yes	9	1	Yes	3.1	Yes
37 38	Mount Sinai Morningside and Mount Sinai West Hospitals, New York UW Health University Hospital, Madison, Wis.	69.9   68.9	5 5	5 5	2	19,352 13,568	1.9 2.4	Yes Yes	9	0	No Yes	3.5 0.6	Yes Yes
39	Scripps La Jolla Hospitals, La Jolla, Calif.	68.7	5	5	4	23,925	2.3	Yes	7	1	No	0.1	Yes
40	University of Chicago Medical Center	68.3	5	5	4	12,259	2.5	Yes	9	1	No	1.4	Yes
41	Emory University Hospital at Wesley Woods, Atlanta	68.2	5	5	4	11,519	1.7	Yes	9	1	Yes	0.8	Yes
42	Boston Medical Center	67.8	5	5	3	6,760	1.3	Yes	9	1	Yes	1.4	Yes
43	UF Health Shands Hospital, Gainesville, Fla.	67.7	5	5	4	20,559	1.7	Yes	9	1	Yes	0.7	Yes
44 45	Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, N.Y. Corewell Health Beaumont Grosse Pointe Hospital, Grosse Pointe, Mich.	67.1 66.8	5 5	5 5	2	39,785 7,371	2.1 1.4	Yes Yes	9	0	No No	0.0	Yes Yes
45	University of Alabama at Birmingham Hospital, Birmingham	66.8	5	5	4	17,159	2.0	Yes	9	1	Yes	2.3	Yes
47	Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital, Lake Forest, Ill.	66.4	5	5	4	7,113	1.4	Yes	9	1	No	0.1	Yes
48	New York-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital, Brooklyn	66.2	5	5	NA	15,783	1.7	Yes	9	0	No	0.0	Yes
48	Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tenn.	66.2	5	5	4	16,612	2.2	Yes	9	1	Yes	1.0	Yes
50	OHSU Hospital, Portland, Ore.	65.7	5	5	4	7,165	2.1	Yes	9	1	Yes	0.4	Yes

Rank	Best Hospitals 2024-25: Neurology & Neurosurgery  Hospital	U.S. News Specialty Score	30-day survival	Discharging patients to home	Patient experience	Number of patients	Nurse staffing	Intensivists	Advanced technologies	Patient services	Trauma center	Recognized as Nurse Magnet hospital	NAEC-designated epilepsy center	NIA-designated Alzheimer's center	Public transparency	Expert opinion	Current AHA responder
1	NYU Langone Hospitals, New York	100.0	5	5	4	7,285	2.3	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	5.8	Yes
2	Mayo Clinic-Rochester, Minn.	92.6 91.1	5 5	5	5	4,842	2.7	Yes	5 5	9	Yes No	1	Yes	Yes	1	18.4	Yes
3 4	UCSF Health-UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco New York-Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia and Cornell	91.1	5	5	3	2,819 8,424	2.2 2.8	Yes Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	1 1	16.0 9.3	Yes Yes
5	Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore	87.6	5	5	4	2,702	2.8	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	10.9	Yes
6	Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston	86.2	5	5	5	4,850	2.4	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	13.7	Yes
7	Rush University Medical Center, Chicago	85.9	5	5	4	2,365	1.9	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	2.4	Yes
8	Hospitals of the U. of Pennsylvania-Penn Presbyterian, Philadelphia	83.2	5	5	5	3,811	2.7	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	5.3	Yes
9	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles	83.1	5	5	4	3,625	2.8	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	No	1	1.9	Yes
9	UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles	83.1	5	5	4	3,004	2.9	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	No	1	7.2	Yes
11	Northwestern Medicine-Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago	82.7	5	5	4	3,027	2.0	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	3.9	Yes
12	Stanford Health Care-Stanford Hospital, Palo Alto, Calif.	81.4	5	5	4	3,146	2.2	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	4.6	Yes
13	Houston Methodist Hospital	80.4	5	5	4	4,753	2.0	Yes	5	9	No	1	Yes	No	1	1.3	Yes
14 15	Cleveland Clinic North Shore University Hospital at Northwell Health, Manhasset, N.Y.	80.3 78.4	5 5	5	3	4,646 4,492	2.1	Yes Yes	5 5	9	No Yes	1	Yes Yes	Yes No	1	7.6 0.5	Yes Yes
16	Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis	78.0	5	5	4	4,492	1.4	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	5.2	Yes
16	Mount Sinai Hospital, New York	78.0	5	5	3	3,158	2.3	Yes	5	9	No	1	Yes	Yes	1	2.4	Yes
18	Mayo Clinic-Arizona, Phoenix	77.0	5	5	5	1,746	3.4	Yes	5	9	No	1	Yes	Yes	1	3.3	Yes
19	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston	76.8	5	5	4	4,102	2.2	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	6.0	Yes
19	UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas	76.8	5	5	5	3,020	2.2	Yes	5	9	No	1	Yes	No	1	1.8	Yes
21	Long Island Jewish Med. Ctr. at Northwell Health, New Hyde Park, N.Y.	75.3	5	5	3	4,360	2.2	Yes	5	9	No	1	Yes	No	1	0.4	Yes
22	UC San Diego Health-La Jolla and Hillcrest Hospitals	73.6	5	5	4	2,418	2.2	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	1.8	Yes
23	Hackensack U. Med. Ctr. at Hackensack Meridian Hlth., Hackensack, N.J.	73.3	5	5	3	2,995	2.4	Yes	5	9 9	Yes	1	Yes	No	1	0.4	Yes
23 25	Mayo Clinic-Florida, Jacksonville University of Miami Hospital and Clinics-UHealth Tower	73.3 72.9	5 5	5	4	2,359 1,127	2.5 1.2	Yes Yes	5 5	9	No No	1 0	Yes Yes	Yes Yes	1	3.3 2.0	Yes Yes
26	University of Mansas Hospital, Kansas City	72.6	5	5	4	4,139	2.0	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	0.8	Yes
27	Thomas Jefferson U. HospsVickie & Jack Farber Inst. for Neuroscience, Philadelphia, Pa.	72.0	5	5	3	4,508	2.3	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	No	1	2.0	Yes
28	UC Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, Calif.	71.6	5	5	3	2,252	2.8	Yes	5	9	Yes	ī	Yes	Yes	1	0.5	Yes
29	Mount Sinai Morningside and Mount Sinai West Hospitals, New York	71.1	5	5	2	3,395	1.9	Yes	5	9	Yes	0	Yes	No	1	0.7	Yes
30	AdventHealth Orlando, Fla.	69.6	5	5	3	11,259	1.5	Yes	5	9	No	0	Yes	No	1	0.1	Yes
31	Keck Medical Center of USC, Los Angeles	69.5	5	5	4	875	2.8	Yes	5	9	No	1	Yes	Yes	1	1.7	Yes
32	Corewell Health William Beaumont University Hospital, Royal Oak, Mich.	69.3	5	5	3	3,892	1.7	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	No	1	0.1	Yes
33	UF Health Shands Hospital, Gainesville, Fla.	68.8	5	5	4	4,441	1.7	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	2.3	Yes
34	Emory University Hospital, Atlanta	68.2 68.2	5 5	5	4	3,021	1.7	Yes	5	9	No	1	Yes	Yes	1	2.2	Yes
34 36	Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital, Lake Forest, Ill.  Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center, Houston	68.0	5	5	4	911 2,555	1.4 1.9	Yes Yes	5 5	9	Yes No	1	No Yes	No No	1	0.1	Yes Yes
36	Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Columbus	68.0	5	5	4	6,041	2.0	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	No	1	2.3	Yes
36	University of Chicago Medical Center	68.0	5	5	4	2,276	2.5	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	No	1	1.6	Yes
36	University of Michigan Health-Ann Arbor	68.0	5	5	4	2,665	2.5	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	3.4	Yes
40	Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center	67.3	5	5	4	2,809	1.6	Yes	5	9	No	1	Yes	No	1	0.3	Yes
41	Duke University Hospital, Durham, N.C.	67.0	5	5	4	3,541	2.1	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	4.1	Yes
	University of Alabama at Birmingham Hospital, Birmingham	66.9	5	5	4	4,526	2.0	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	1.6	Yes
43	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston	66.6	5	5	3	3,370	1.2	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	No	1	1.1	Yes
44	St. Francis Hospital and Heart Center, Roslyn, N.Y.	66.3	5	5	4	1,994	1.8	Yes	5	8	No	1	No	No	1	0.0	Yes
45	University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center New York-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital, Brooklyn	66.2	5	5	3	3,346	2.5	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	1.4	Yes
46 47	Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, N.Y.	66.1 65.9	5 5	5	NA 2	1,937 5,471	1.7 2.1	Yes Yes	5 5	9	Yes Yes	0	No Yes	No No	1	0.0 1.0	Yes Yes
48	Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Conn.	65.8	5	4	3	5,101	2.2	Yes	5	9	Yes	1	Yes	Yes	1	2.1	Yes
49	Lenox Hill Hospital at Northwell Health, New York	65.6	5	5	3	1,911	2.1	Yes	5	9	No	1	Yes	No	1	0.4	Yes
49	Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Hershey, Pa.	65.6	5	5	4	3,267	2.0	Yes	5	9	Yes	ī	Yes	No	1	0.5	Yes
	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •																

Rank Hos 1 Brig 2 Joh 3 May 4 Clev 5 Ced	pspital gham and Women's Hospital, Boston nns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore yo Clinic-Rochester, Minn.	0.001 0.001 0.001	ज <b>30-day survival</b>	Discharging patients to home	Patient experience	Number of patients	e staffing	Intensivists	Advanced technologies	it services	Recognized as Nurse Magnet hospital	transparency	t opinion	Current AHA responder
1 Brig 2 Joh 3 May 4 Clev 5 Ced	gĥam and Women's Hospital, Boston nns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore yo Clinic-Rochester, Minn.	100.0			Ъ	5 Z	Nurse	Inten	Advan	Patient (	Recog	Public	Expert	Currer
3 May 4 Clev 5 Ced	yo Clinic-Rochester, Minn.	95.1	3	5	4	1,205	2.2	Yes	5	9	1	1	7.2	Yes
4 Clev 5 Ced			4	5	4	509	2.8	Yes	5	9	1	1	4.7	Yes
5 Ced	eveland Clinic	85.2	5	5	5	1,680	2.7	Yes	5	9	1	1	4.4	Yes
		83.9 80.2	5 4	3 5	4	1,177	2.1	Yes	5 5	9	1	1	5.1	Yes
6 Tan	dars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles mpa General Hospital, Fla.	80.2	5	5	4	632 706	2.8 2.4	Yes Yes	5	9	1	1	1.7	Yes Yes
	Health University Hospital, Madison, Wis.	79.2	5	5	4	661	2.4	Yes	5	9	1	1	0.5	Yes
	w York-Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia and Cornell	76.0	5	5	3	1,519	2.8	Yes	5	9	ī	1	5.4	Yes
9 Nor	rthwestern Medicine-Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago	74.1	5	3	4	538	2.0	Yes	5	9	1	1	4.8	Yes
	rewell Health William Beaumont University Hospital, Royal Oak, Mich.	73.7	5	5	3	840	1.7	Yes	5	9	1	1	0.6	Yes
	ke University Hospital, Durham, N.C.	72.0	5	5	4	905	2.1	Yes	5	8	1	1	4.2	Yes
	San Diego Health-La Jolla and Hillcrest Hospitals	71.5	5	3	4	706	2.2	Yes	5	9	1	1	2.2	Yes
	ng Island Jewish Med. Ctr. at Northwell Health, New Hyde Park, N.Y. uston Methodist Hospital	71.1	5 5	3	3 4	1,570 552	2.2	Yes Yes	5 5	9 8	1	1	2.5 1.7	Yes
	vocate Christ Medical Center, Oak Lawn, Ill.	70.7	5	3	3	729	2.0	Yes	5	9	1	1	0.0	Yes Yes
	LA Medical Center, Los Angeles	70.4	5	3	4	668	2.9	Yes	5	9	1	1	1.9	Yes
	unt Sinai Hospital, New York	70.2	5	4	3	1,015	2.3	Yes	5	9	1	1	1.5	Yes
	iversity of Alabama at Birmingham Hospital, Birmingham	69.7	3	5	4	1,456	2.0	Yes	5	9	1	1	2.9	Yes
	U Langone Hospitals, New York	69.6	5	5	4	1,317	2.3	Yes	5	9	1	1	2.7	Yes
	e New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Conn.	69.6	3	3	3	1,206	2.2	Yes	5	9	1	1	2.6	Yes
	iversity of Kentucky Albert B. Chandler Hospital, Lexington spitals of the U. of Pennsylvania-Penn Presbyterian, Philadelphia	67.9 67.7	5 5	5 3	4 5	840 637	1.8 2.7	Yes Yes	5 5	9	1	1	0.2 2.5	Yes Yes
	anford Health Care-Stanford Hospital, Palo Alto, Calif.	67.5	5	3	4	826	2.7	Yes	5	9	1	1	1.8	Yes
	MC Magee-Womens Hospital, Pittsburgh	67.2	5	3	4	1,708	1.0	Yes	5	9	ī	1	5.0	Yes
	iversity of Chicago Medical Center	66.7	5	3	4	732	2.5	Yes	5	9	1	1	1.1	Yes
	morialCare Long Beach Medical Center, Long Beach, Calif.	66.6	5	5	3	383	2.2	Yes	5	9	1	1	0.4	Yes
	nn Muir Health-Walnut Creek Medical Center, Walnut Creek, Calif.	66.3	5	3	3	572	2.4	Yes	5	8	1	1	0.0	Yes
	io State University Wexner Medical Center, Columbus	65.8	5	2	4	995	2.0	Yes	5	9	1	1	3.8	Yes
29 Rus	sh University Medical Center, Chicago	64.8	4	5	4	495	1.9	Yes	5	9			0.7	Yes
	ISC Health-University Medical Center, Charleston, S.C. rnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis	64.6 64.3	5 3	5 3	3 4	984 1,248	1.4 1.4	Yes Yes	5 5	9	1	1	0.9 2.6	Yes Yes
	SF Health-UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco	63.9	3	3	4	547	2.2	Yes	5	9	1	1	4.8	Yes
	nox Hill Hospital at Northwell Health, New York	63.4	4	3	3	510	2.1	Yes	5	9	1	1	3.5	Yes
	ventHealth Orlando, Fla.	62.6	5	3	3	2,190	1.5	Yes	5	9	1	1	0.1	Yes
	sey Shore U. Med. Ctr. at Hackensack Meridian Health, Neptune, N.J.	61.9	5	3	3	413	2.4	Yes	5	9	1	1	0.7	Yes
	ova Fairfax Hospital, Falls Church, Va.	61.8	3	3	4	2,018	1.8	Yes	5	9	1	1	0.7	Yes
	Health University of Colorado Hospital, Aurora	61.8	5	3	3	920	2.0	Yes	5	9	1	1	1.0	Yes
	deavor Health NorthShore Hospitals, Evanston, Ill. rora St. Luke's Medical Center, Milwaukee	61.7	3 5	3	4	763 445	1.0 1.7	Yes Yes	5 5	9	1	1	0.4	Yes Yes
	lings Clinic, Billings, Mont.	60.4	3	3	3	593	1.5	Yes	5	9	1	1	0.0	Yes
	ripps La Jolla Hospitals, La Jolla, Calif.	60.3	3	4	4	785	2.3	Yes	5	9	ī	1	0.2	Yes
41 UF	Health Shands Hospital, Gainesville, Fla.	60.3	4	4	4	653	1.7	Yes	5	9	1	1	1.0	Yes
	rrance Memorial Medical Center, Torrance, Calif.	59.7	3	3	4	622	2.1	Yes	5	9	1	1	0.1	Yes
	ylor University Medical Center, Dallas	59.6	5	3	4	748	1.8	Yes	5	9	1	1	0.4	Yes
	th Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston	59.5	5	3	3	662	1.2	Yes	5	9	1	1	0.7	Yes
	dStar Washington Hospital Center	59.5	5	5	2	635	2.2	Yes	5	8	0	1	0.4	Yes
	nnsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia ma Linda University Medical Center, Loma Linda, Calif.	59.5 59.3	5 4	3 5	3 4	501 494	2.2 2.5	Yes Yes	5 5	9 8	1	0	0.5	Yes Yes
	tter Medical Center, Sacramento, Calif.	59.3	5	4	3	494	2.5	Yes	5	9	0	1	0.0	Yes
	est Penn Hospital, Pittsburgh	59.1	5	3	4	1,727	1.2	Yes	5	9	1	1	0.2	Yes

Rank	Best Hospitals 2024-25: Orthopedics  Hospital	U.S. News Specialty Score	30-day survival	Discharging patients to home	Prevention of outpatient procedural complications	Patient experience	Number of patients	Nurse staffing	Intensivists	Advanced technologies	Patient services	Trauma center	Recognized as Nurse Magnet hospital	Expert opinion	Current AHA responder
1	Hospital for Special Surgery, New York	100.0	5	5	5	5	6,202	4	Yes	2	7	No	1.0	16.8	Yes
2	Mayo Clinic-Rochester, Minn.	90.7	5	5	4	5	6,136	2.7	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	14.8	
3	NYU Langone Orthopedic Hospital, New York	88.9	5	5	5	4	7,235	2.3	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	7.8	Yes
4	New York-Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia and Cornell	87.3	5	5	5	3	6,258	2.8	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	3	Yes
5	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles	87.0	5	5	4	4	4,240	2.8	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	2.8	Yes
6	Stanford Health Care-Stanford Hospital, Palo Alto, Calif.	80.5	5	5	4	4	3,401	2.2	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	2.7	Yes
7	North Shore University Hospital at Northwell Health, Manhasset, N.Y.	79.4	5	5 5	5	3	3,639	2.8	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	0.4	Yes
8 9	UCSF Health-UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopedic Hospital, Los Angeles	78.8 76.3	5 5	5	4	4	3,426 2,089	2.2	Yes Yes	2	7	No Yes	1.0	2.8	Yes Yes
10	Midwest Orthopaedics at Rush University Medical Center, Chicago	75.9	5	5	3	4	2,732	1.9	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	5.7	Yes
11	Northwestern Medicine-Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago	74.2	5	5	4	4	2,129	2	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	3	Yes
12	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston	73.8	5	3	3	4	3,293	2.2	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	3	Yes
12	Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston	73.8	5	3	3	5	3,459	2.4	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	4.8	Yes
14	New England Baptist Hospital, Boston	73.3	5	1	5	4	2,712	3.9	Yes	2	4	No	1.0	0.8	Yes
15	Hospitals of the U. of Pennsylvania-Penn Presbyterian, Philadelphia	73.0	5	3	3	5	2,797	2.7	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	3.4	Yes
16	Cleveland Clinic	70.3	5	5	3	4	4,105	2.1	Yes	2	7	No	1.0	6.4	Yes
16	Morristown Medical Center, Morristown, N.J.	70.3	5	5	5	4	3,962	1.8	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	0.5	Yes
18	Queen's Medical Center, Honolulu	69.6	5	5	5	4	2,350	1.9	Yes	1	6	Yes	1.0	0	Yes
19	Mayo Clinic-Arizona, Phoenix	69.4	4	5	4	5	1,581	3.4	Yes	2	7	No	1.0	1.9	Yes
20	Corewell Health William Beaumont University Hospital, Royal Oak, Mich.	68.5 68.5	5 5	5 5	3	3	3,795	1.7	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	0	Yes
20 20	Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest, Allentown, Pa. Rothman Orthopaedics at Thomas Jefferson U. Hosps., Philadelphia, Pa.	68.5	5	5	5	3	4,729 5,255	1.2 2.3	Yes Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	5.3	Yes
23	Houston Methodist Hospital	68.2	5	5	2	4	3,445	2.3	Yes	2	7	No	1.0	1	Yes
24	Long Island Jewish Med. Ctr. at Northwell Health, New Hyde Park, N.Y.	68.0	5	3	4	3	2,496	2.2	Yes	2	7	No	1.0	0.5	Yes
25	Hackensack U. Med. Ctr. at Hackensack Meridian Hlth., Hackensack, N.J.	67.7	5	5	5	3	2,326	2.4	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	0.4	Yes
26	Duke University Hospital, Durham, N.C.	67.3	5	5	3	4	3,067	2.1	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	5.1	Yes
27	Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore	66.9	5	5	4	4	1,777	2.8	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	2.2	Yes
28	Scripps La Jolla Hospitals, La Jolla, Calif.	66.1	5	4	4	4	4,756	2.3	Yes	2	6	Yes	1.0	0.6	Yes
29	Hoag Orthopedic Institute, Newport Beach, Calif.	65.9	5	5	5	4	4,720	1.9	Yes	2	7	No	1.0	0.6	Yes
29	St. Francis Hospital and Heart Center, Roslyn, N.Y.	65.9	5	3	4	4	1,650	1.8	Yes	2	7	No	1.0	0	Yes
31	Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis	65.8	5	5	3	4	3,841	1.4	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	4	Yes
32	Mount Sinai Hospital, New York	65.5	5	5	3	3	2,094	2.3	Yes	2	7	No	1.0	1	Yes
33	VCU Medical Center, Richmond, Va.	64.1	5	5	3	3	1,750	1.5	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	0.2	Yes
34	Advocate Lutheran General Hospital, Park Ridge, Ill.	64.0	5	1	4	3	2,149	1.7	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	0.2	Yes
34	UW Health University Hospital, Madison, Wis.	64.0	5 5	4 1	4 5	4 2	2,499	2.4 1.9	Yes Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	0.9	Yes
36 37	Mount Sinai Morningside and Mount Sinai West Hospitals, New York Torrance Memorial Medical Center, Torrance, Calif.	63.6 63.1	5	5	4	4	2,382 2,575	2.1	Yes	2	7	No	1.0	0.2	Yes Yes
38	Mayo Clinic-Florida, Jacksonville	63.0	4	5	3	5	1,963	2.5	Yes	2	7	No	1.0	1.7	Yes
39	Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital, Barrington, Ill.	62.5	5	4	5	4	1,027	1.7	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	0	Yes
39	UC Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, Calif.	62.5	5	3	4	3	1,945	2.8	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	1.3	Yes
41	Memorial Hermann Hospital, Houston	62.4	5	5	3	3	4,235	2.2	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	0.6	Yes
42	Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, N.Y.	62.2	5	1	4	2	1,993	2.1	Yes	2	7	Yes	0.0	0.7	Yes
42	Providence Saint John's Health Center, Santa Monica, Calif.	62.2	5	5	5	3	1,660	2.5	Yes	2	6	No	0.0	0.2	Yes
44	UC San Diego Health-La Jolla and Hillcrest Hospitals	61.7	5	4	3	4	2,055	2.2	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	1.2	Yes
45	Endeavor Health NorthShore Hospitals, Evanston, Ill.	61.6	5	3	4	4	4,314	1	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	0.1	Yes
46	Florida Orthopaedic Institute at Tampa General Hospital	61.1	5	5	2	3	2,921	2.4	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	1.7	Yes
46	UF Health Shands Hospital, Gainesville, Fla.	61.1	5	5	5	4	3,439	1.7	Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	0.7	Yes
48	Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas	60.8	5 5	5 5	2	4	3,086	1.8	Yes Yes	2	7	Yes	1.0	0.2	Yes
49		60.7			,	5	1,638	2.2	VOC			No	1.0	0.5	Yes

	Best Hospitals 2024-25: Pulmonology & Lung Surgery											hospital			
Rank	Hospital	U.S. News Specialty Score	30-day survival	Discharging patients to home	Patient experience	Number of patients	Nurse staffing	Intensivists	Advanced technologies	Patient services	Trauma center	Recognized as Nurse Magnet	Public transparency	Expert opinion	Current AHA responder
1	Mayo Clinic-Rochester, Minn.	100.0	5	5	5	8,331	2.7	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	13.1	Yes
1	NYU Langone Hospitals, New York	100.0	5	5	4	21,565	2.3	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	3.3	Yes
3	UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles	95.4	5	5	4	7,006	2.9	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	4.9	Yes
4	UCSF Health-UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco	95.3	5	5	4	4,088	2.2	Yes	6	8	No	1	1.0	8.8	Yes
5	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles	94.5	5 5	5	4 5	10,065	2.8	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	2.2	Yes
6 7	Hospitals of the U. of Pennsylvania-Penn Presbyterian, Philadelphia Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore	92.9 91.4	5	5 5	4	7,389 3,500	2.7 2.8	Yes Yes	6	8	Yes Yes	1	1.0	6.3 7.7	Yes Yes
8	Houston Methodist Hospital	90.4	5	5	4	9,077	2.0	Yes	6	8	No	1	1.0	0.9	Yes
9	Cleveland Clinic	90.1	5	5	4	6,268	2.1	Yes	6	8	No	i	1.0	11.3	
10	UC San Diego Health-La Jolla and Hillcrest Hospitals	89.8	5	5	4	4,807	2.2	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	4.2	Yes
11	North Shore University Hospital at Northwell Health, Manhasset, N.Y.	89.7	5	5	3	11,437	2.8	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	0.0	0.9	Yes
12	Northwestern Medicine-Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago	87.4	5	5	4	5,912	2.0	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	2.7	Yes
13	National Jewish Health, Denver-University of Colorado Hospital, Aurora	87.1	5	5	3	4,480	2.0	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	18.4	Yes
14	New York-Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia and Cornell	87.0	5	5	3	20,956	2.8	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	5.4	Yes
15	Rush University Medical Center, Chicago	86.9	5	5	4	3,762	1.9	Yes	5	8	Yes	1	1.0	0.7	Yes
16	University of Michigan Health-Ann Arbor	86.8	5	5	4	5,553	2.5	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	5.9	Yes
17	UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas	86.4	5	5	5	5,470	2.2	Yes	6	8	No	1	1.0	1.4	Yes
18	Mayo Clinic-Arizona, Phoenix	85.7	5	5 5	5	5,089	3.4	Yes	5	8	No	1	1.0	2.1	Yes
19 20	Stanford Health Care-Stanford Hospital, Palo Alto, Calif.  Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston	85.6 85.2	5 5	5	4 5	5,365 8,080	2.2	Yes Yes	6 6	8	Yes Yes	1	1.0	2 7.2	Yes
21	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston	81.3	5	5	4	6,151	2.2	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	0.0	5.3	Yes
22	Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis	81.1	5	5	4	6,845	1.4	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	4.6	Yes
22	Hackensack U. Med. Ctr. at Hackensack Meridian Hlth., Hackensack, N.J.	81.1	5	5	3	8,220	2.4	Yes	5	8	Yes	1	1.0	0.2	Yes
24	UC Davis Medical Center, Sacramento, Calif.	80.7	5	5	3	3,996	2.8	Yes	5	8	Yes	1	1.0	1	Yes
25	Mount Sinai Hospital, New York	80.6	5	5	3	9,179	2.3	Yes	6	8	No	1	1.0	1.8	Yes
26	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston	79.5	5	5	3	5,224	1.2	Yes	5	8	Yes	1	1.0	1.4	Yes
27	Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Columbus	78.9	5	5	4	7,884	2.0	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	1.8	Yes
28	University of Kansas Hospital, Kansas City	78.4	5	5	4	5,488	2.0	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	0.4	Yes
29	Mayo Clinic-Florida, Jacksonville	77.9	5	5	5	3,971	2.5	Yes	6	8	No	1	1.0	1.7	Yes
30	Huntington Hospital at Northwell Health, Huntington, N.Y.	77.7	5	5	3	5,831	2.1	Yes	5	8	No	1	0.0	0.1	Yes
31	Lenox Hill Hospital at Northwell Health, New York	77.6 77.6	5 5	5 5	3	5,404	2.1	Yes	5 5	8	No	1	1.0	2.4	Yes
31 33	Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Conn. Corewell Health William Beaumont University Hospital, Royal Oak, Mich.	77.0	5	5	3	12,384 9,334	2.2 1.7	Yes Yes	5	8	Yes Yes	1	1.0	1.6 0.2	Yes Yes
34	Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas	77.1	5	5	4	7,385	1.8	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	0.2	Yes
35	University of Chicago Medical Center	77.0	5	5	4	4,208	2.5	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	2.8	Yes
36	Duke University Hospital, Durham, N.C.	76.5	5	5	4	5,673	2.1	Yes	6	8	Yes	ī	1.0	6.5	Yes
36	Long Island Jewish Med. Ctr. at Northwell Health, New Hyde Park, N.Y.	76.5	5	5	3	16,054	2.2	Yes	5	8	No	1	1.0	1.1	Yes
38	St. Francis Hospital and Heart Center, Roslyn, N.Y.	75.8	5	5	4	6,040	1.8	Yes	5	8	No	1	0.0	0.2	Yes
39	Thomas Jefferson U. HospsJane & Leonard Korman Respiratory Inst., Philadelphia, Pa.	75.7	5	5	3	5,809	2.3	Yes	5	8	Yes	1	1.0	1.2	Yes
40	Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest, Allentown, Pa.	75.1	5	5	3	12,392	1.2	Yes	5	8	Yes	1	1.0	0.1	Yes
40	UW Health University Hospital, Madison, Wis.	75.1	5	5	4	4,606	2.4	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	1.4	Yes
42	Advocate Christ Medical Center, Oak Lawn, Ill.	74.5	5	5	3	8,043	2.1	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	0.0	0.1	Yes
43	Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tenn.	74.4	5	5	4	5,492	2.2	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	6.3	Yes
44	Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, N.Y.	74.3	5	5	2	17,507	2.1	Yes	6	8	Yes	0	1.0	0.9	Yes
45	UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside, Pittsburgh	73.7	5	5	4	7,217	2.0	Yes	6	8	Yes	1	1.0	3.9	Yes
46	Northern Westchester Hospital at Northwell Health, Mount Kisco, N.Y. Kaiser Permanente Anaheim and Irvine Medical Centers, Anaheim, Calif.	73.4 73.3	5 5	5	3	2,363 6,664	2.1	Yes	5	8	No	1	0.0	0	Yes
47 48	UF Health Shands Hospital, Gainesville, Fla.	73.3	5	5 5	4	8,283	2.4 1.7	Yes Yes	5 6	8	No Yes	1	0.0	0.2 1.2	Yes Yes
49	White Plains Hospital, White Plains, N.Y.	72.8	5	5	4	7,353	1.9	Yes	5	8	No	1	1.0	0	Yes
															Yes
50	Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital, Lake Forest, Ill.	72.6	5	5	4	2,711	1.4	Yes	5	8	Yes	1	0.0	0.1	

Rank	Best Hospitals 2024-25: Rehabilitation  Hospital	U.S. News Specialty Score	Prevention of hospital readmission after discharge	Prevention of hospital readmission during rehabilitation	Discharging patients to home	Flu vaccination rate	Number of patients treated for stroke	Number of patients treated for traumatic brain injury	Number of Medicare patients treated for traumatic spinal cord injury	Number of patients treated for non- traumatic brain injury	Number of patients treated for non- traumatic spinal cord injury	Number of patients treated for neurological conditions	Advanced technologies	Patient services	Designated as rehabilitation innovation center	CARF accreditation	External accreditation from Model Systems and CARF	Expert opinion	Current AHA responder
1	Shirley Ryan AbilityLab, Chicago	100.0	92.1	93.8	65.6	93.8	726	289	233	306	280	269	7	16	1	0	5.0	24.7	1
2	TIRR Memorial Hermann, Houston	91.1	92.6	95.3	64.7	94.0	433	237	181	176	125	73	7	16	1	1	5.0	12.9	1
3 4	Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, Charlestown, Mass.	91.0 84.4	92.7	94.3 94.2	60.5 66.1	99.8	582 1,646	110 251	115 150	212 587	170 249	96 342	7 7	16 16	1	1	5.0	16.3 10.1	1
4	Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation, West Orange, N.J. Rusk Rehabilitation at NYU Langone Hospitals, New York	84.4	91.8 92.7	96.2	64.6	94.6 99.3	514	99	25	204	104	130	7	16	1	1	5.0	7.1	1
6	Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, San Jose, Calif.	79.4	92.4	96.2	82.7	57.7	250	64	74	64	87	39	7	16	1	1	5.0	3.3	1
7	Atrium Health Carolinas Rehabilitation, Charlotte, N.C.	76.6	91.8	96.5	71.6	89.6		123.0	89.0	259	229	106	7	16	0	1	2.5	2.7	1
8	MossRehab, Elkins Park, Pa.	76.2	92.0	94.9	65.0	98.5	937	194	85	162	179	99	7	16	1	1	5.0	5.3	
9	Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital, Grand Rapids, Mich.	75.9	92.6	95.5	73.7	93.9	548	141	58	158	115	121	7	16	1	1	5.0	1.3	1
10	Mayo Clinic-Rochester, Minn.	75.6	91.2	96.0	70.7	84.6	163.0		23.0	110	101	30	7	16	1	1	5.0	8.3	1
11	UW Medicine-University of Washington Medical Center, Seattle	74.3	91.5	96.2	69.4	89.5	73	10	10	65	46	17	7	16	1	1	5.0	10	1
12	New York-Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia and Cornell UPMC Mercy, Pittsburgh	73.2	92.2	95.7	66.1	98.9	354	68	10	224 131	104	90	6	16	0	1	2.5	6.5	1
13 14	Banner Rehabilitation Hospitals Phoenix and West	72.5 71.0	92.0 91.9	94.4 96.2	63.4 74.5	97.0 70.9	300 878	119 153	82 31	227	128 126	46 224	7 7	16 16	0	0	5.0 2.5	5.9 0.5	1
15	UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas	70.6	92.5	95.8	72.1	82.9	158	19	13	111	116	104	7	16	1	1	5.0	3	1
16	Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital, Jacksonville, Fla.	69.7	92.6	95.7	60.4	80.6	694	209	178	346	217	158	7	16	0	1	2.5	1.8	1
17	Craig Hospital, Englewood, Colo.	68.8											7	16	1	0	5.0	5.5	1
18	Shepherd Center, Atlanta	68.3											7	16	1	1	5.0	5.4	1
19	Sheltering Arms Institute, Richmond, Va.	68.0	91.2	94.8	68.5	95.0	448	140	86	141	115	290	7	15	1	0	5.0	1.5	1
20	Baylor Scott and White Institute for Rehabilitation-Dallas	67.7	91.4	94.9	70.7	97.1	287	111	104	101	87	179	7	16	1	1	5.0	1.8	1
21	WakeMed Raleigh Campus, Raleigh, N.C.	67.1	93.1	96.8	70.6	94.7	421	68	49	103	86	51	6	15	0	1	2.5	0	1
22 23	Mount Sinai Hospital, New York California Rehabilitation Institute, Los Angeles	66.9 65.9	91.9 91.7	95.0 95.1	68.6 68.2	68.6 89.2	162 543.0	52 134.0	62 25.0	75 540	78 235	37 475	7 7	16 16	0	1	5.0 2.5	3.8 1.2	1
24	Cleveland Clinic Rehabilitation Hospital, Avon	65.3	91.8	94.7	67.1	74.9	944	141	61	347	331	642	7	16	0	1	2.5	0.9	1
24	Glen Cove Hospital at Northwell Health, Glen Cove, N.Y.	65.3	92.5	95.6	66.4	58.1	589	68	19	173	83	182	7	16	0	1	2.5	1.3	1
26	Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, Downey, Calif.	64.8	92.5	95.2	62.4	68.8	377	114	110	90	80	86	7	16	1	1	5.0	1	1
27	Craig H. Neilsen Rehabilitation Hospital, Salt Lake City	63.9	92.1	94.9	68.3	99.3	238	90	83	119	81	75	7	16	0	1	2.5	1.9	1
28	Kaiser Permanente Vallejo Medical Center, Vallejo, Calif.	63.8	91.5	95.2		77.8	636	81	53	69	76	20	6	15	0	1	2.5	0.8	1
29	Sarasota Memorial Hospital, Sarasota, Fla.	62.9	93.5	96.2	66.9	65.0	238	95	21	88	49	90	7	16	0	1	2.5	0.1	1
30	MedStar National Rehabilitation Hospital, Washington	62.8	90.7 91.1	95.0 95.2	60.0 67.5	94.6 57.4	537 409	77 88	84 74	117 164	103 184	82 62	7 7	16 15	1 1	1	5.0	3.2 0.9	1
31 32	Lynn Rehabilitation Center at UHealth/Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami St. David's Medical Center, Austin, Texas	62.7	92.2	96.2		68.0	311	87	31	210	101	266	6	15	0	0	0.0	0.9	1
33	JFK Johnson Rehab. Inst. at Hackensack Meridian HlthEdison, N.J.	62.1	92.5	94.4	62.2	87.0	683	160	17	121	81	56	7	16	0	1	2.5	2.9	1
34	Barrow Neurological Institute, Phoenix	61.6	92.5	95.6	69.1	92.0	184	65	38	166	119	19	7	16	0	1	2.5	0.2	1
35	Legacy Good Samaritan Medical Center, Portland, Ore.	60.4	92.5	96.1	75.7	89.5	323	48	44	49	43	14	6	15	0	1	2.5	0	1
36	Burke Rehabilitation Hospital, White Plains, N.Y.	60.2	93.8	92.5	61.1	98.4	801	87	47	142	142	132	7	16	0	1	2.5	1.6	1
37	Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Columbus	60.1	90.6	94.6	65.8	87.6	189	75	33	99	67	43	7	16	1	1	5.0	4.2	1
38	OhioHealth Rehabilitation Hospital, Columbus	60.0	91.5	95.9	68.2	53.6	381	81	32	140	88	77	7	16	0	1	2.5	0.4	1
39 40	Memorial Regional Hospital, Hollywood, Fla. Roper Hospital, Charleston, S.C.	59.9 59.6	91.3 92.4	95.3 96.3		95.0 95.3	501 212	102 34	20 46	205 42	73 51	201 66	7 6	14 13	0	1	2.5	0.3	1
41	Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital, Greensboro, N.C.	59.2	93.0	96.1		95.9	380	48	15	60	34	51	5	15	0	1	2.5	0	1
41	University of Michigan Health-Ann Arbor	59.2		95.5		85.2	39	10	38	23	70	37	7	15	1	1	5.0	2.8	1
43	Keck Medical Center of USC, Los Angeles	59.1	91.6	95.9	75.5	100.0	46	11	10	49	82	107	7	16	1	0	5.0	0.2	1
43	Sutter Roseville Medical Center, Roseville, Calif.	59.1	92.7	96.1	74.6	71.5	309	25	17	53	57	50	6	16	0	1	2.5	0	1
45	Northwestern Medicine Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital, Wheaton, Ill.	59.0	92.1	93.1		97.9	757	140	55	264	147	225	7	16	0	1	2.5	1.2	1
45	Providence St. Jude Medical Center, Fullerton, Calif.	59.0		96.1		64.7	175	42	10	78	79	151	7	16	0	1	2.5	0.2	1
47	Courage Kenny Rehab. Inst. at Abbott Northwestern Hosp., Minneapolis	58.6	92.8	95.8		89.2	248	16	27	49	69	60	7	16	1	1	5.0	0.2	1
48 49	Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana, Indianapolis MetroHealth Medical Center, Cleveland	58.2	90.9	95.5 95.7		99.1 97.0	390 186	82 61	55 79	126 72	104 65	40 50	7 7	16 16	1	1 1	5.0 5.0	0.1 1.8	1
	Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital, Houston		90.9	55.7	01.2	5/.0	100	01	13	12	03	50	/	10		1	5.0	1.0	1

Rank	Best Hospitals 2024-25: Urology	U.S. News Specialty Score	30-day survival	Discharging patients to home	Prevention of outpatient procedural complications	Patient experience	Number of patients	Nurse staffing	Intensivists	Advanced technologies	Patient services	Trauma center	Recognized as Nurse Magnet hospital	Expert opinion	Current AHA responder
1	Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York	100.0	5	5	5	5	877	2.4	Yes	6	8	No	1.0	4.7	Yes
2	New York-Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia and Cornell	94.9	5	5	5	3	1,665	2.8	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	6.4	Yes
2	NYU Langone Hospitals, New York	94.9	5	5	3	4	1,129	2.3	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	6.1	Yes
4 5	UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles Cleveland Clinic	94.3	5 5	5	4	4	522 1,116	2.9	Yes Yes	6 6	9	Yes No	1.0	10.1 16.8	Yes Yes
6	Mayo Clinic-Rochester, Minn.	91.2	5	5	3	5	1,110	2.7	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	15.2	Yes
7	Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore	88.2	5	5	3	4	576	2.8	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	8.8	Yes
8	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston	84.6	5	5	4	4	755	2.2	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	2.5	Yes
9	University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston	84.4	5	5	4	5	932	1.9	Yes	6	9	No	1.0	4.4	Yes
10	Hospitals of the U. of Pennsylvania-Penn Presbyterian, Philadelphia	83.9	5	5	4	5	1,003	2.7	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	2.4	Yes
11	Mount Sinai Hospital, New York	83.0	5	5	2	3	991	2.3	Yes	6	9	No	1.0	3.2	Yes
12	Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles	82.7	5	5	4	4	692	2.8	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	1	Yes
12	Northwestern Medicine-Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago	82.7	5	5	4	4	810	2	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	4	Yes
14	Rush University Medical Center, Chicago	82.6	5	5	3	4	436	1.9	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	1.3	Yes
15	Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston	82.2	5	5	2	5	822	2.4	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	3.6	Yes
16	UCSF Health-UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco	82.1	4	5	5	4	592	2.2	Yes	6	9	No	1.0	8.4	Yes
17	Hackensack U. Med. Ctr. at Hackensack Meridian Hlth., Hackensack, N.J.	81.4	5	5	3	3	580	2.4	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	4.2	Yes
18	Keck Medical Center of USC, Los Angeles	80.3	5	5	5	4	1,038	2.8	Yes	6	9	No	1.0	4.1	Yes
19 19	Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pa. Stanford Health Care-Stanford Hospital, Palo Alto, Calif.	80.0 80.0	5 5	5	4	4	519 493	2.6	Yes	6	9	No Yes	1.0	0.9	Yes Yes
21	University of Michigan Health-Ann Arbor	79.2	5	5	4	4	696	2.5	Yes Yes	6 6	9	Yes	1.0	9	Yes
22	North Shore University Hospital at Northwell Health, Manhasset, N.Y.	77.5	4	5	5	3	578	2.8	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	0.3	Yes
23	Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, N.Y.	76.2	5	1	5	2	883	2.1	Yes	6	9	Yes	0.0	0.9	Yes
24	Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Columbus	75.6	5	3	4	4	738	2	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	1.5	Yes
25	Houston Methodist Hospital	75.3	5	5	4	4	551	2	Yes	6	8	No	1.0	0.9	Yes
26	St. Francis Hospital and Heart Center, Roslyn, N.Y.	75.1	4	5	3	4	336	1.8	Yes	6	9	No	1.0	0.1	Yes
27	Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, Tenn.	74.8	3	5	4	4	848	2.2	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	7.6	Yes
28	Duke University Hospital, Durham, N.C.	74.3	5	5	3	4	693	2.1	Yes	6	8	Yes	1.0	4.9	Yes
29	Jefferson Health-Thomas Jefferson U. Hospitals, Philadelphia, Pa.	72.7	5	4	5	3	538	2.3	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	2.5	Yes
30	Mayo Clinic-Florida, Jacksonville	72.5	4	5	4	5	506	2.5	Yes	6	8	No	1.0	2.6	Yes
31	Morristown Medical Center, Morristown, N.J.	72.4	5	5	4	4	429	1.8	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	0.2	Yes
31	Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Conn.	72.4	5 5	5	5	3	850	2.2	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	1	Yes
33 33	Sharp Memorial Hospital, San Diego UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas	71.6 71.6	4	5	3	4 5	364 1,143	2.2	Yes Yes	6	8	Yes No	1.0	0 4.2	Yes Yes
35	Tampa General Hospital, Fla.	71.2	5	5	2	3	781	2.4	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	0.4	Yes
36	University of Chicago Medical Center	70.9	5	3	5	4	387	2.5	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	1.3	Yes
37	Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis	70.7	5	5	3	4	641	1.4	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	1.6	Yes
38	UF Health Shands Hospital, Gainesville, Fla.	70.6	5	3	4	4	566	1.7	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	1.9	Yes
39	Mayo Clinic-Arizona, Phoenix	69.5	5	5	2	5	543	3.4	Yes	6	9	No	1.0	3.1	Yes
40	Penn Medicine Lancaster General Hospital, Lancaster, Pa.	69.3	5	5	4	3	543	1.3	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	0	Yes
41	Long Island Jewish Med. Ctr. at Northwell Health, New Hyde Park, N.Y.	69.0	5	5	4	3	1,061	2.2	Yes	6	9	No	1.0	0.7	Yes
42	Corewell Health William Beaumont University Hospital, Royal Oak, Mich.	68.8	5	5	3	3	503	1.7	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	1.5	Yes
43	UC San Diego Health-La Jolla and Hillcrest Hospitals	68.7	5	3	4	4	503	2.2	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	2.3	Yes
44	Emory University Hospital, Atlanta	68.6	5	5	2	4	538	1.7	Yes	6	9	No	1.0	1.1	Yes
45	UW Health University Hospital, Madison, Wis.	68.5	5	5	5	4	544	2.4	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	1.7	Yes
46	UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside, Pittsburgh	67.9	3	5	5	4	1,093	2	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	2	Yes
47	Endeavor Health NorthShore Hospitals, Evanston, Ill. OHSU Hospital, Portland, Ore.	67.8 67.5	3	5	4	4	669	1 2.1	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	0.1	Yes
48 49	City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center, Duarte, Calif.	67.1	4 5	5	5	5	242 267	1.9	Yes Yes	6 6	8	Yes No	1.0	0.5	Yes Yes
50	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston	66.8	5	3	5	3	434	1.2	Yes	6	9	Yes	1.0	0.5	Yes
	25th 25th 25th 25th 25th 25th 25th 25th	30.0	,	, ,	,	,	757	1.2			, ,	. 03	1.0	0.5	103

# Appendix E 2024–2025 Best Hospitals Rankings, Expert Opinion–Based Specialties

# Best Hospitals 2024–2025: Ophthalmology

Rank	Hospital	Expert Opinion (%)
1	Bascom Palmer Eye Institute-U. of Miami Hospital & Clinics	32.9
2	Thomas Jefferson U. Hospitals-Wills Eye Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.	27.4
3	Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore	19.6
4	Mass Eye and Ear, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston	16.3
5	Stein and Doheny Eye Institutes, UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles	13.8
6	University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City	12.0
7	Duke University Hospital, Durham, N.C.	11.0
8	University of Michigan Health Kellogg Eye Center, Ann Arbor	8.0
9	Cole Eye Institute, Cleveland Clinic	5.2
10	John A. Moran Eye Center, U. of Utah Hosps. & Clinics, Salt Lake City	5.1

# Best Hospitals 2024-2025: Psychiatry

Rank	Hospital	Expert Opinion (%)
1	Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston	14.0
2	McLean Hospital, Belmont, Mass.	13.0
3	New York-Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia and Cornell	12.6
4	Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore	7.9
5	Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital at UCLA, Los Angeles	6.7
6	Yale New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Conn.	5.5
7	UCSF Health-UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco	5.0
8	UPMC Presbyterian Shadyside, Pittsburgh	4.6
9	NYU Langone Hospitals, New York	4.2
9	Stanford Health Care-Stanford Hospital, Palo Alto, Calif.	4.2

# Best Hospitals 2024-2025: Rheumatology

Rank	Hospital	Expert Opinion (%)
1	Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore	26.8
2	Cleveland Clinic	17.5
3	Hosp. for Special Surgery, N.YPresby. U. Hosp. of Columbia & Cornell	17.3
4	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston	14.4
5	Mayo Clinic-Rochester, Minn.	13.6
6	Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston	12.0
7	UCSF Health-UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco	10.5
8	UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles	7.5
9	NYU Langone Hospitals, New York	6.7
10	University of Alabama at Birmingham Hospital, Birmingham	5.6
10	University of Michigan Health-Ann Arbor	5.6

# Appendix F 2024-2025 Best Hospitals Honor Roll

#### 2024-2025 Best Hospitals Honor Roll

#### **Hospital (listed alphabetically)**

Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles

**Cleveland Clinic** 

Duke University Hospital, Durham, N.C.

Hospitals of the U. of Pennsylvania-Penn Presbyterian, Philadelphia

**Houston Methodist Hospital** 

Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore

Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston

Mayo Clinic-Arizona, Phoenix

Mayo Clinic-Rochester, Minn.

Mount Sinai Hospital, New York

New York-Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia and Cornell

North Shore University Hospital at Northwell Health, Manhasset, N.Y.

Northwestern Medicine-Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago

NYU Langone Hospitals, New York

Rush University Medical Center, Chicago

Stanford Health Care-Stanford Hospital, Palo Alto, Calif.

UC San Diego Health-La Jolla and Hillcrest Hospitals

UCLA Medical Center, Los Angeles

UCSF Health-UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco