

Physician Forum

Excellence Above All

JEWISH HOSPITAL RANKED IN U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT'S ANNUAL "AMERICA'S BEST HOSPITALS"

For the third consecutive year, Jewish Hospital has been ranked among the nation's hospitals in U.S. News & World Report's annual "America's Best Hospitals" feature. Of the 5,189 hospitals evaluated for the 2006 report, only 176 received scores high enough to qualify for rankings in the 16 specialty areas. Jewish Hospital is the only hospital in Louisville and only one of three hospitals in Kentucky to make the list of the "50 Best Hospitals."

"Making 'America's Best Hospitals' list two years in a row for heart and heart surgery care, and adding us to the list for respiratory is a great accomplishment for Jewish Hospital," said Robert L. Shircliff, president and chief executive officer of Jewish Hospital & St. Mary's HealthCare. "We are again being recognized as a center that takes on and excels at tough procedures and conditions. A difficult condition or a complex operation demands a higher standard of care, especially if the risk is compounded by advanced age, frailty, obesity, or some other complication. Jewish Hospital receives some of the sickest patients to provide advance care because Jewish Hospital has a reputation for pioneering new treatment guidelines and conducting bench-to-bedside research to improve care."

"We received this ranking as being the best in the area because our team of physicians, nurses, technicians, administrators and other health service professionals are providing our patients with the best care available," said Ed Jutt, vice president of Jewish Hospital's Heart and Lung Institute.

"Patients come to us because they trust us and we have the best physicians, staff and technology available. They know whether they are here for a simple diagnostic test or a complex surgery, we will take

care of them with the latest advances in imaging, surgical devices, and other technologies. Our outstanding surgical team and outcomes coupled with the expertise helps ensure our patients return to normal life as quickly as possible."

In order to be considered, hospitals had to meet at least one of three criteria: membership in the Association of American Medical Colleges' Council of Teaching Hospitals and Health Systems, affiliation with a medical school, or availability of a minimum of nine of 18 key technologies. Hospitals were assigned scores within each specialty area based on measures including their reputations among board-certified specialists; severity-adjusted mortality rates; and other factors, such as nurse-to-patient ratios and adoption of new technologies.

About Jewish Hospital:

Jewish Hospital is an internationally renowned high-tech tertiary referral center, developing leading-edge advancements in hand and microsurgery, heart and lung care, home care, rehab medicine (including sports medicine), orthopaedics, neuroscience, occupational health, organ transplantation, outpatient care and primary care. Jewish Hospital is the site of the world's first and the nation's second successful hand transplants; is the site of the world's first and second successful AbioCor® Implantable Replacement Hearts; and is federally designated to perform all five solid organ transplants -- heart, lung, liver, kidney and pancreas. Jewish Hospital was also named a "Top 100 Hospital" in the nation in cardiovascular excellence by Solucient and was presented with the Consumer Choice Award as the most preferred hospital in Louisville for the seventh consecutive year.

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