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17of Hospitals in the Pittsburgh area Earn an "A" in Today's National Announcement of Fall 2023 Hospital Safety Grades from The Leapfrog Group

Infections are Down Nationally After a Spike During the Pandemic

**Pittsburgh, PA, November 6, 2023** – The Leapfrog Group, a national nonprofit representing hundreds of the nation's most influential employers and purchasers of health care, driven in the Pittsburgh area by the Pittsburgh Business Group on Health, announced the fall 2023 Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grades, <u>HospitalSafetyGrade.org</u>. The grade reflects preventable medical errors, accidents, injuries, and infections that together kill more than 500 people a day in the U.S. Pennsylvania ranked 4th in the country overall for percentage of "A" hospitals.

The latest grades are the first to reflect post-pandemic hospital performance. Notably, Leapfrog found significant decreases in three dangerous health care-associated infections (HAIs), but patient experience reports continue to decline.

"Nobody wants patients to suffer or even die from a preventable medical error, but sadly it happens all too often in hospitals across the country," said Diane McClune, Strategic Consultant, Pittsburgh Business Group on Health. "The employers and purchasers in our coalition believe everyone benefits when we know how hospitals are doing, and we can work together to prevent these terrible problems."

In the Pittsburgh Area, 47 hospitals were graded, and 17 earned an "A," 12 earned a "B," 15 earned a "C," 3 earned a "D," and 0 earned an "F." Three more hospitals earned an A grade and eight more earned a B for the Fall of 2023 compared to the Spring. This demonstrates our hospitals' commitment and dedication to hospital safety.



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"We know the pandemic caused tremendous strain on hospitals, but we are encouraged by the significant reduction in infections and applaud the hospitals in the Pittsburgh Area that worked to achieve that. It is clear, however, that many hospitals have not fully rebounded, as shown by the declining patient experience measures," said Leah Binder, President and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. "Despite the challenges, we commend the hospitals in the Pittsburgh Area that are clearly putting patients first."

The Leapfrog Group has a more than 10-year history of assigning letter grades to general hospitals throughout the U.S., based on a hospital's ability to prevent medical errors and harm to patients. The grading system is peer-reviewed, fully transparent, and free to the public. Hospital Safety Grade results are based on more than 30 national performance measures and are updated each fall and spring.

For more information about the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, as well as individual hospital grades and state rankings, please visit <a href="HospitalSafetyGrade.org">HospitalSafetyGrade.org</a> and <a href="follow The Leapfrog Group">follow The Leapfrog Group</a> on Twitter, Facebook and via its newsletter.

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## **About the Pittsburgh Business Group on Health**

PBGH is the region's only non-profit dedicated to helping employers protect and promote their ability to provide high-quality, equitable and affordable healthcare to employees, so our communities thrive. Partnering with Leapfrog and hospitals to improve patient safety is essential to providing the highest quality care and containing costs.

## **About The Leapfrog Group**

Founded in 2000 by large employers and other purchasers, The Leapfrog Group is an independent national nonprofit driving a movement for giant leaps for patient safety. The flagship Leapfrog Hospital Survey and new Leapfrog Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) Survey collect and transparently report hospital and ASC performance, empowering purchasers to find the highest-value care and giving consumers the lifesaving information they need to make informed decisions. The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, Leapfrog's other main initiative, assigns letter grades to hospitals based on their record of patient safety, helping consumers protect themselves and their families from errors, injuries, accidents, and infections. For more, follow us on Twitter and Facebook, and sign up for our newsletter.