



**Greater Philadelphia
Business Coalition
On Health**

"Building Bridges to Better Healthcare"

PRESS RELEASE

GPBCH Leapfrog Efforts Significantly Increase Transparency on Hospital Safety
Hospital Reporting Has Increased Eight-fold Since 2012

PHILADELPHIA, PA—(October 12, 2015)— The Greater Philadelphia Business Coalition on Health (GPBCH) is significantly improving transparency of hospital safety information by serving as the “regional roll-out” for the Leapfrog Group’s hospital survey – a national initiative that encourages hospitals to voluntarily disclose data on safety practices and outcomes. Since GPBCH began its Leapfrog initiative in 2012 for southeastern Pennsylvania and Delaware, the number of hospitals in the region that report their data has increased eight-fold from 3 to 24 (out of 55). (New Jersey’s Leapfrog efforts are coordinated by the New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute). This national survey collects and publicly reports information on hospital safety, quality, and value in a standardized manner, so that purchasers and consumers can make valid comparisons and use information to select a provider. Research also has shown that hospitals that publicly report their data are more likely to improve on the reported measures.

According to Neil Goldfarb, President and CEO of GPBCH, “While we continue to recognize the hospitals that report Leapfrog data, we now are getting valuable insights into care processes and outcomes through the data that have been reported. For example, the 2015 Leapfrog data reported to date for our region show that 71% of the reporting hospitals fully meet the Leapfrog standards for computerized provider order entry (CPOE). That means that 29% of reporting hospitals don’t fully meet this important standard...and we don’t even know about the 31 hospitals in our region that are not willing to make their data available to the public.” Similarly, 65% of reporting hospitals fully meet the “safe practices” standard (a composite of measures of safety that have been shown to significantly reduce likelihood of a medical error), 44% meet the standard for preventing pressure ulcers, and only 25% fully meet the standard for avoiding hospital readmissions. The Leapfrog Group has also released cesarean section (C-section) rates for reporting hospitals. Of the 33 states analyzed this year, less than half (39.1 percent) met Leapfrog’s target rate of 23.9 percent or lower. The average rate for Leapfrog reporting hospitals in Pennsylvania was 25.8% and for New Jersey 28.1%. Delaware was among the 16 states that had too few (less than six) reporting hospitals to accurately calculate an average rate.

With these data, GPBCH can start to identify better-performing hospitals and steer business their way. The Coalition also will be engaging in discussions with the provider community about how to improve patient safety and reduce errors, thereby improving health outcomes and lowering care costs.

GPBCH would like to recognize the following southeastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey and Delaware hospitals for their willingness to disclose their performance information, to date, through the 2015 Leapfrog Hospital Survey:

- Abington Health Lansdale Hospital and Abington Memorial Hospital
- Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children

- Aria Health – Bucks County, Frankford and Torresdale Divisions
- Beebe Healthcare
- Cancer Treatment Centers of America at Eastern Regional Medical Center
- Cape Regional Medical Center
- Cooper University Health Care
- Doylestown Hospital
- Grand View Hospital
- Hahnemann University Hospital
- Inspira Medical Center – Elmer, Vineland, and Woodbury Campuses
- Jeanes Hospital
- Kennedy University Hospital – Cherry Hill, Stratford, and Washington Township
- Lower Bucks Hospital
- Mercy Health System: Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital, Mercy Suburban Hospital, Nazareth Hospital, and Mercy Philadelphia Hospital
- Nanticoke Memorial Hospital
- Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center, and Lourdes Medical Center of Burlington
- Roxborough Memorial Hospital
- Shore Medical Center
- St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children
- St. Mary Medical Center
- Temple University Hospital
- Thomas Jefferson University Hospital – Center City and Methodist Hospital Campuses
- Virtua Hospital – Virtua Memorial Hospital, and Marlton and Voorhees Campuses

Goldfarb notes that, “The Coalition has made great strides in increasing hospital safety data reporting for the Leapfrog Group Survey, however, we won’t be satisfied until 100% of hospitals in our region report their data.”

About GPBCH

Greater Philadelphia Business Coalition on Health (GPBCH) is an employer-led non-profit membership organization focused on working with health plans, health care providers, and other system stakeholders to improve the value of health benefit spending for its members, by improving healthcare quality and safety and reducing health care costs. The Coalition is committed to maintaining and improving the health and productivity of the region’s workforce, and to ensuring that when health care is needed it is accessible, affordable, high-quality, and safe. The Coalition’s service area includes the Philadelphia five-county region (Philadelphia, Bucks, Montgomery, Chester, and Delaware Counties), the state of Delaware (New Castle, Kent, and Sussex Counties), and southern New Jersey (Camden, Burlington, Gloucester, Salem, Cumberland, Atlantic and Cape May Counties). GPBCH also offers affiliate memberships to organizations that do not participate as employers but have an interest in supporting GPBCH’s mission. GPBCH currently represents over 750,000 lives in the region and 1.4 million lives nationally, and is a member of the National Business Coalition on Health that represents over 50 healthcare business coalitions in the United States.

GPBCH Social Media Resources

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