

The Heart Hospital Baylor Plano Receives “High Performing” Scores in U.S. News & World Report Analysis: “Best Hospitals for Common Care”

Washington, D.C. – May 20, 2015 – The Heart Hospital Baylor Plano (Joint ownership with physicians) received the **highest ratings possible** in two categories in a new hospital quality analysis published by U.S. News & World Report. The Heart Hospital received “**High Performing**” ratings in: **Heart Bypass Surgery and Heart Failure** (the only two categories applicable to a cardiovascular facility in this analysis). This new analysis, called *Best Hospitals for Common Care* ratings, covers nearly every hospital in the country and evaluates each one in five common surgical procedures and medical conditions that account for millions of hospitalizations a year. The analysis uses the following rankings or levels for scoring:

- Below Average
- Average
- High Performing

U.S. News developed the new ratings to help patients easily identify hospitals in their communities that excel in treating common conditions. Patients can look up any U.S. hospital at no cost at usnews.com to see how it rates in three common operations – heart bypass, hip replacement and knee replacement – and two widespread chronic conditions – congestive heart failure and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, or COPD.

To generate the ratings, U.S. News evaluated hospitals across more than 25 quality measures – including mortality, readmissions, infections and patient satisfaction scores – and analyzed more than 5 million patient records, taking into account each patient's health conditions, age, sex, socioeconomic status and other factors affecting risk.

The ratings rely on Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services data for patients 65 and older, as well as data from the American Hospital Association annual survey and clinical registry data from the Society of Thoracic Surgeons. The analysis was carried out in collaboration with Dr Foster, an international health care analytics company with expertise in claims-based risk adjustment.

A subset of the Best Hospitals for Common Care results will appear in the “Best Hospitals 2016” guidebook, which hits newsstands September 1 and will be available for preorder on usnews.com starting August 4. The U.S. News *Best Hospitals* rankings, which help patients with life-threatening or rare conditions identify hospitals that excel in treating the most difficult cases, will be available in July.