



Community Hospital of San Bernardino

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Community Hospital of San Bernardino: Maternity Care Top Ranked Top 5% Nationally

HealthGrades Study Examined Maternal Complication Rates and Neonatal Mortality Rates at Hospitals in 19 States

San Bernardino, CA (June 30, 2010) – An independent study issued today by HealthGrades ranks Community Hospital of San Bernardino (CHSB) among the top 5% in nation for maternity care, the hospital announced today. Using objective patient-outcome data collected from state governments, the independent ratings organization ranked hospitals based on their maternal complication rates for vaginal and C-section deliveries as well as neonatal mortality rates. Community Hospital of San Bernardino is one of only 18 hospitals in California to be ranked in the top 5%.

In recognition of these superior outcomes in maternity care services, Community Hospital of San Bernardino is a recipient of the HealthGrades Maternity Care Excellence Award™ for the second year in a row. In addition, CHSB has received a 5-Star rating which is the highest rating possible for the third consecutive year.

Each month, approximately 215 mothers deliver their babies at Community Hospital of San Bernardino. “Maternity care has always been one of our biggest service lines,” says Interim President Diane E. Nitta. “We have a reputation in the community for providing excellent care to our mothers and babies, and our HealthGrades distinction is a wonderful testimony to the quality of the physicians, the nursing staff and everyone involved in our maternal child services. In addition to this HealthGrades recognition, in 2007 we became the 61st Baby Friendly hospital in the country, a distinction earned by the World Health Organization and UNICEF for our efforts to encourage breastfeeding. Mothers-to-be in our region can be proud to select Community Hospital of San Bernardino for their birthing experience.”

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According to *The Seventh Annual HealthGrades Maternity Care in American Hospitals Study™*, which ranked hospitals as well as tracked trends in maternity care, it is found that top-rated hospitals had fewer complications than low-rated hospitals. Mothers at top-rated hospitals had, on average, 51% fewer complications for vaginal deliveries and 74% fewer complications for C-sections compared with poorly rated hospitals.

“Objective data shows that hospitals can vary in terms of complication rates and neonatal mortality rates,” said Rick May, MD, a vice president with HealthGrades and co-author of the study. “The hospitals in the top 5% in the nation for maternity care should be proud not only of the outstanding care they deliver, but also for the quality benchmarks they are setting for other hospitals to follow.”

The study was conducted independently by HealthGrades and included all hospitals in the 19 states that provide data for analysis. The records of more than 1,500 hospitals were examined. Results showed that Community Hospital of San Bernardino had improved outcomes in maternity care over last year, moving the hospital’s standings from the top 10% into the top 5% nationwide.

For this analysis by HealthGrades, hospitals were evaluated using the following criteria:

- Maternal complication rate among women undergoing single live-born vaginal or C-section deliveries
- Maternal complication rate among women undergoing “patient-choice” or non-clinically indicated C-sections
- Newborn volume adjusted for low birth weight
- Newborn mortality rate stratified into eight birth weight categories

The full HealthGrades Maternity Care study, along with its methodology, can be downloaded at www.healthgrades.com.

About Community Hospital of San Bernardino

Community Hospital of San Bernardino is a private, non-profit 343-bed acute care hospital celebrating 100 years of saving lives in the Inland Empire since 1910. The hospital’s medical services include acute inpatient care, obstetrical services, inpatient and outpatient surgery, behavioral health services, long term subacute care for adults and children and health education programs for community members. With 1,400 employees, it is one of the largest employers in the Inland Empire area.

Community Hospital of San Bernardino is accredited by the Joint Commission. The hospital is designated Baby-Friendly™ by the Baby-Friendly USA organization, an initiative sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF). Affiliated with Catholic Healthcare West, Community Hospital of San Bernardino is non-denominational. For additional information, please visit www.CHSB.org.