



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NATIONAL HOSPITAL QUALITY STUDY RANKS ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL NUMBER ONE IN MISSOURI FOR CARDIAC SERVICES

The independent study also finds St. Luke's number one in the state for pulmonary, gastrointestinal and critical care services.

CHESTERFIELD, MO, October 20, 2010 – St. Luke's Hospital ranks number one in Missouri for cardiac services according to a study published today by HealthGrades, a leading independent healthcare ratings organization. The study also ranks St. Luke's number one in the state for pulmonary, gastrointestinal and critical care services. Critical care services include the treatment of severe conditions such as respiratory failure and sepsis.

Earlier this year, St. Luke's was also the only Missouri hospital recognized for the fourth year in a row as an America's 50 Best Hospital by HealthGrades, ranking St. Luke's among the top one percent of hospitals in the nation based on superior clinical quality.

“These achievements are a tribute to the continuous efforts of our experienced and dedicated physicians, staff and volunteers,” said Gary Olson, St. Luke's Hospital president and chief executive officer. “Through their exceptional teamwork and commitment to providing the best care possible, St. Luke's is able to improve the quality of patients' lives.”

According to the study, St. Luke's has outstanding patient outcomes across several additional clinical areas, including five-star ratings for heart attack treatment, stroke treatment, joint replacement and total knee replacement.

For the *Thirteenth Annual HealthGrades Hospital Quality in America* study, the largest annual report of its kind, HealthGrades focused on hospital survival and complication rates and analyzed millions of Medicare hospitalization records from 2007 through 2009 at the nation's approximately 5,000 non-government hospitals. No hospital can opt in or out of the analysis, and no hospital pays to be rated. HealthGrades risk-adjusts data to allow for apples-to-apples comparisons of hospitals.

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About St. Luke's Hospital:

St. Luke's Hospital, located in Chesterfield, Missouri, is a regional healthcare provider committed to improving the quality of life for patients and the community. The 493-bed, not-for-profit hospital offers more than 60 specialty areas including cardiovascular care and surgery, cancer care, neurosurgery and neurology, orthopedics, maternity and other women's health, general medicine, outpatient services, pediatrics and comprehensive surgical services. For more information about St. Luke's Hospital, please visit www.stlukes-stl.com/newsroom.

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