

Hospital Quality Web Site Now Features More Data

September 2, 2005

Attributable to the following members of the Hospital Quality Alliance:

AARP
AFL-CIO
American Hospital Association
American Medical Association
American Nurses Association
Association of American Medical Colleges
Consumer-Purchaser Disclosure Project
Federation of American Hospitals
Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations
National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions
National Quality Forum

Today's update of the Hospital Compare Web site demonstrates the ongoing commitment of the nation's hospitals to share meaningful, quality information with consumers. As partners in this important effort, we are particularly pleased to see hospitals making more complete information about their care available.

Approximately 4,000 hospitals – virtually all acute care hospitals – have voluntarily submitted quality information to share with the public. In the latest update of Hospital Compare, 74 percent of all reporting hospitals provided information on all 18 measures around three common medical conditions: heart attack, heart failure and pneumonia. That's an increase from 23 percent of hospitals that were reporting on all measures in April when Hospital Compare was launched. This shows a remarkable commitment by the nation's hospitals to continue to expand Hospital Compare and provide the public with more robust information. In addition, more than 600 hospitals have already begun reporting on surgical infection prevention, one of the newest additions to Hospital Compare.

This is important progress, making Hospital Compare a useful resource for patients and families alike. As partners in this initiative, we will continue to expand the Web site to include more information. Our goal is to help patients better understand the quality of hospital care and help them make informed decisions about their care. We applaud the good work of the hospitals that are participating in this effort and are committed to building on this accomplishment.

About Hospital Compare

Hospital Compare is the result of the cooperation of the Hospital Quality Alliance, a landmark public-private partnership of hospitals, government agencies, quality experts, purchasers, consumer groups and other health care organizations. These organizations have joined together to develop a shared national strategy for hospital quality measurement and are committed to advancing quality of care. The site -- www.HospitalCompare.hhs.gov -- has been created by the Hospital Quality Alliance to provide quality of care information to the public in a consistent, unified way.

###