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## Leapfrog Announces 2019 Top Hospital Award for Pennsylvania Area Hospitals

**Bethlehem, PA, December 17, 2019** – [The Leapfrog Group](#) announced today 6 hospitals in Pennsylvania have been named to its 2019 national list of Top Hospitals, including:

- Lancaster General Hospital – Top Teaching Hospital
- Lehigh Valley Hospital – Cedar Crest – Top Teaching Hospital
- Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center – Top Teaching Hospital
- St. Luke’s University Hospital – Bethlehem Campus – Top Teaching Hospital
- UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh – Top Children’s Hospital
- UPMC Northwest – Top Rural Hospital

The elite award is one of the most competitive honors American hospitals can receive in safety and quality. The winners will be officially recognized at Leapfrog’s Annual Awards Dinner and Ceremony on December 17, 2019 in Washington, D.C.

The Lehigh Valley Business Coalition on Healthcare (LVBCH) is a Leapfrog Regional Leader, working with providers, purchasers, payors and patients in Pennsylvania to drive safe, high-quality health care. “The Top Hospital Award provides critical patient safety information to consumers,” said Carl Seitz, LVBCH President and Leapfrog Regional Leader. “On behalf of our members and our community we are committed to collaborating with local hospitals and other stakeholders to ensure patients in Pennsylvania are receiving the safest possible care. We are proud of our local hospitals as well as hospitals across the state that have received this distinction.”

The Leapfrog Group is a national nonprofit watchdog organization that rates hospitals on how well they protect patients from errors and infections, as well as the effectiveness of procedures and other care they provide. This year, Leapfrog recognized 120 Top Hospitals across the country. Of those, 10 were Top Children’s Hospitals, 37 Top General Hospitals, 18 Top Rural Hospitals and 55 Top Teaching Hospitals.

“The standards achieved by Top Hospitals reflect the high expectations set by Leapfrog and its expert panels, which starts with a commitment to transparency,” said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. “We are honored to spotlight the hospitals that have truly gone above and beyond in their pursuit of excellence that protects patients and saves lives.”

The Top Hospital award is given to teaching, general, rural and children’s hospitals that publicly report their performance through the Leapfrog Hospital Survey and meet the

high standards defined in the Top Hospitals Methodology. This includes infection rates, maternity care and a hospital's ability to prevent medication errors, among other standards. To see the full national list of institutions honored as 2019 Top Hospitals, please visit [www.leapfroggroup.org/tophospitals](http://www.leapfroggroup.org/tophospitals).

### **About LVBCH**

LVBCH is a multi-state, not-for-profit, coalition of employers striving to provide access to quality affordable healthcare for their employees. The Coalition's mission is to improve the delivery, cost and quality of health care in our communities through: Collective employer action; Quality and data initiatives; Value based purchasing; and, Providing forums for the exchange of information, ideas and resources. The Coalition is also a member of the National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions, the National Quality Forum and The Leapfrog Group. For more information, visit [www.LVBCH.com](http://www.LVBCH.com).

### **About The Leapfrog Group**

Founded in 2000 by large employers and other purchasers, The Leapfrog Group is a national nonprofit organization driving a movement for giant leaps forward in the quality and safety of American health care. The flagship Leapfrog Hospital Survey collects and transparently reports hospital performance, empowering purchasers to find the highest-value care and giving consumers the lifesaving information they need to make informed decisions. The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, Leapfrog's other main initiative, assigns letter grades to hospitals based on their record of patient safety, helping consumers protect themselves and their families from errors, injuries, accidents and infections.

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