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## HCA Florida West Hospital Awarded Spring 2023 'A' Hospital Safety Grade from Leapfrog Group

*Grade reflects top national performance on patient safety through COVID-19 pandemic*

**Pensacola, FL May 3, 2023** – HCA Florida West Hospital has once again received an “A” [Hospital Safety Grade](#) from The Leapfrog Group, a national nonprofit upholding the standard of patient safety in hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers. This national distinction celebrates HCA Florida West’s achievements in prioritizing patient safety by protecting patients from preventable harm and errors. The new grades reflect performance primarily during the height of the pandemic.

**“To continually receive an “A” grade for hospital safety is a reflection of the dedication and commitment that our physicians, colleagues and volunteers have for patient safety. Our healthcare workforce has a strong culture of patient safety, excellent patient care experiences and putting our patient’s first.”** said Gabe Bullaro, Chief Executive Officer for HCA Florida West Hospital. **Earning this “A” grade is further evidence of our commitment to providing safe, quality and compassionate healthcare to the communities we serve. Our community deserves this information so they can make informed choices about where to receive care. The purpose of the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade is to bring this information to light in a way that is easy for the customer to use.”**

The Leapfrog Group, an independent national watchdog organization, assigns an “A,” “B,” “C,” “D” or “F” grade to general hospitals across the country based on over 30 national performance measures reflecting errors, accidents, injuries and infections, as well as systems hospitals have in place to prevent harm.

**“The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade provides data and research to help make patients and their loved ones make informed decisions about a critical aspect of your hospital stay – safety.”** said Dr. Vinay Pallekonda, Chief Medical Officer for HCA Florida West Hospital. **“A hospital may have the best surgeons and greatest technology in the world, but unless it is preventing infections and eliminating errors, it is not delivering on a very basic premise which is ensuring the safety of you and your loved ones.”**

“This new update of Hospital Safety Grades shows that, at the national level, we saw deterioration in patient safety with the pandemic,” said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. “But this

hospital received an 'A' despite those challenges. I congratulate all the leaders, staff, volunteers and clinicians who together made that possible.”

The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade is the only hospital ratings program based exclusively on hospital prevention of medical errors and harm to patients. The grading system is peer-reviewed, fully transparent and free to the public. Grades are updated twice annually, in the fall and spring.

To see HCA Florida West Hospital's full grade details and to access patient tips for staying safe in the hospital, visit [HospitalSafetyGrade.org](https://HospitalSafetyGrade.org) and [follow The Leapfrog Group](#) on Twitter, Facebook and via its newsletter.

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### **About HCA Florida West Hospital**

HCA Florida West Hospital, located in Pensacola, Florida is a full service acute care hospital that has proudly cared for Northwest Florida for more than 45 years. Our top priority is to exceed patient expectations with the highest quality and most compassionate team of healthcare professionals. Our fully accredited healthcare facility strives to provide state-of-the-art technologies and best practices in evidence-based care. Currently, our hospital campus includes the acute care hospital, an inpatient, CARF accredited rehabilitation facility and an Age Friendly designated mental health facility. In addition, we are also pleased to partner with the University of Central Florida to offer Graduate Medical Education Residency Programs.

The area's first Accredited Chest Pain Center and Breast Imaging Center of Excellence, West Florida Hospital is also the first hospital in the state of Florida to have earned Atrial Fibrillation with Electrophysiology Services Accreditation. In addition, West Florida Healthcare is an Advanced Primary Stroke Center and an accredited Comprehensive Stroke Center. Affiliated with HCA, the nation's leading provider of healthcare, HCA Florida West meets the community's healthcare needs in major services such as cardiology, cardiovascular surgery, oncology, orthopedics, pediatrics, robotic-assisted surgery, critical care, neurology/neurosurgery, emergency care, urology, behavioral health, gastroenterology, obstetrics, pulmonary, and rehabilitative medicine.

### **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 for patient safety. The flagship [Leapfrog Hospital Survey](#) and new [Leapfrog Ambulatory Surgery Center \(ASC\) Survey](#) collect and [transparently report](#) hospital and ASC 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. For more, [follow us on Twitter and Facebook, and sign up for our newsletter](#).