



NEWS

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For Immediate Release

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Two Saint Luke's Health System hospitals included in Top 100 Hospitals: Performance Improvement Leaders – 2005 list

Hedrick Medical Center, Saint Luke's Hospital demonstrate performance excellence

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Two members of Saint Luke's Health System – Saint Luke's Hospital of Kansas City, and Hedrick Medical Center in Chillicothe, Mo. – have been named in the Top 100 Hospitals®: Performance Improvement Leaders - 2005 study released May 1, 2006.

The study is presented by Solucient, an Illinois-based health care industry information company. The Solucient study identifies hospital management teams that have led their organizations to achieve the fastest rate of consistent annual organizational improvement.

The performance improvement leaders study is a quantitative study that uses a balanced scorecard approach, based on publicly available data, to identify 100 benchmark hospitals that have had the fastest and most consistent organization-wide improvement in nine measures of financial, operational, and clinical performance over five consecutive years.

Hedrick Medical Center, a 25-bed critical access hospital in Chillicothe, Mo., was included in the "Small community hospitals – 25-99 acute-care beds" category. Saint Luke's Hospital, a 623-bed tertiary hospital, was included in the "Teaching hospitals – 200 or more acute-care beds" category.

"Driving performance excellence is integral to the culture at all of the hospitals in Saint Luke's Health System," said G. Richard Hastings, president and CEO of Saint Luke's Health System and CEO of Saint Luke's Hospital. "It involves a balanced approach that considers not only what's best for the patient, but providing that care with financial and operational efficiency."

“This award signifies the commitment made many years ago by the Board of Directors, medical staff, and employees of Hedrick Medical Center to provide the best quality care in northern Missouri,” said James K. Johnson, chief executive officer of Hedrick Medical Center. “I am extremely proud of all the hard work our physicians and employees have put into changing our culture and increasing the quality of medical care provided at Hedrick Medical Center.”

In 2003 Saint Luke’s Hospital won the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, the top honor a U.S. company can receive for quality management and achievement. The health system plans to integrate the Baldrige management model in all of its hospitals.

For more information about this study, visit 100tophospitals.com.

Saint Luke's Health System consists of 10 area hospitals and many primary care practices, and provides a range of primary, acute, tertiary, and chronic care services. The health system is an organization in which the physicians and hospitals, functioning as an integrated unit, assume responsibility for the delivery of comprehensive, cost-effective, quality health care for people in the metropolitan Kansas City area and the surrounding region.

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