

news release

For Immediate Release
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MidMichigan Named One of the Nation's Top 100 Hospitals By Solucient

MIDLAND, MICHIGAN -- Affiliates of MidMichigan Health are setting new national standards for clinical outcomes, patient safety, financial performance, efficiency, and growth in patient volume. Gratiot Medical Center in Alma, and MidMichigan Medical Center-Midland both have been named one of the nation's 100 Top Hospitals® by Solucient®, part of Thomson Healthcare, a leading provider of information and solutions to improve the cost and quality of healthcare.

The Solucient 100 Top Hospitals®: National Benchmarks for Success study annually examines changing performance levels in U.S. hospitals and objectively identifies 100 benchmark hospitals based on overall performance.

The study uses a balanced scorecard approach and scores hospitals based on a set of measures that reflect highly effective performance across the whole organization, including board members, medical staff, management and employees. These include:

- Patient outcomes
- Patient safety
- National treatment standards (core measures)
- Efficiency
- Financial stability
- Growth in service

As a result of the measures, the Top 100 Hospitals distinction was given to Gratiot Medical Center in the medium community hospital category.

“Of the 3,000 eligible hospitals in the country, we are proud to be one of the selected medical centers to receive The 100 Top Hospitals: National Benchmarks for Success award,” said Thomas DeFauw, president and CEO of Gratiot Medical Center in Alma. “This award further demonstrates our commitment to quality patient care, patient safety and operational efficiency. We are very proud of our entire Medical Center team – our Board of Trustees, medical staff, leadership team, employees and volunteers.”

In addition, MidMichigan Medical Center-Midland received the Top 100 Hospitals distinction in the teaching hospital category (having 200 or more acute care beds in service, and either an intern and resident-per-bed ratio of at least 0.03 or involvement in at least three GME programs overall).

“We are pleased to have earned this recognition as a leader in setting new national standards in health care,” said Richard M. Reynolds, president of MidMichigan Medical Center-Midland. “This distinction, coupled with having recently received the 2007 Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence™ for the third year in a row, truly validates the dedicated focus of our physicians, staff, and volunteer team.”

The full list of honorees may be found at www.100tophospitals.com. The 2006 winners from the 14th edition of the study have been announced in the March 12 issue of Modern Healthcare.

Additional findings of the study reported that:

- If all hospitals performed like the benchmark hospitals, more than 100,000 additional patients could survive each year, and an additional 114,000 could avoid complications.
- With 25 percent higher admissions per bed, benchmark hospitals treated more patients than non-winning hospitals and also treated patients who were sicker and required more complex treatment.
- The 100 Top Hospitals facilities spent an average of 12 percent less, per discharge, than peer hospitals.
- Median total profit margin at 100 Top Hospitals winners was nearly three times the median of peer hospitals.
- Salaries and benefits were \$3,200 more a year per full-time staff member at benchmark hospitals.

More than half of the winning hospitals in the 2006 study are from the Midwest, and 30 of the 100 Top Hospitals facilities are in two states — Michigan and Ohio. When researchers evaluated hospital performance on a state-by-state basis, nine out of 12 Midwest states placed in the top two quintiles. The Midwest was also the top region in hospital performance in the 2004 edition of the 100 Top Hospitals national study.

At the other end of the spectrum, nearly two-thirds of states in the South (10 out of 17) ranked in the lowest two quintiles.

“The heavy concentration of high-performing hospitals in the Midwest represents the effectiveness and commitment of hospital leaders in the region,” says Jean Chenoweth, senior vice president, performance improvement and 100 Top Hospitals programs, Center for Healthcare Improvement, Thomson Healthcare. “When 75 percent of the states in a single region perform at such high levels, it reflects a single-minded focus on raising performance levels. The concentration of 30 percent of the 100 Top Hospitals in Michigan and Ohio is a tribute to the effort these hospitals’ boards, CEOs, and medical staff leaders have made to increase the value of services to their communities and patients.”

Solucient®, a part of Thomson Healthcare, is the market leader in providing tools and vital insights that healthcare managers use to improve the performance of their organizations. By integrating, standardizing, and enhancing healthcare information, Solucient provides comparative measurements of cost, quality, and market performance. Solucient's expertise

and proven solutions enable providers and pharmaceutical companies to drive business growth, manage costs and deliver high quality care. For more information, visit www.thomsonhealthcare.com.

MidMichigan Health is a family of organizations dedicated to providing quality, comprehensive health care throughout the middle of Michigan and beyond. Its vision is to provide a lifetime of trusted care through coordinated hospitals, home care, nursing homes, and urgent care, as well as through physician services and advanced medical technology.

Those who would like more information on MidMichigan may visit www.midmichigan.org, or call MidMichigan Health Line at (989) 837-9090 in Midland or toll-free at (800) 999-3199.

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