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Ascension Sacred Heart Recognized with Top Grade for Hospital Safety

PENSACOLA, Fla. (May 3, 2021) – Ascension Sacred Heart Pensacola has been awarded an 'A' from The Leapfrog Group's Hospital Safety Grade for the Spring 2021. The national designation recognizes the hospital's efforts in protecting patients from harm and meeting the highest safety standards.

Ascension Sacred Heart is the only hospital in Pensacola to achieve the "A" rating from Leapfrog on the latest ratings released April 29.

The Leapfrog Group is a national organization committed to improving health care quality and safety for consumers and purchasers. The Safety Grade assigns an A, B, C, D or F grade to hospitals across the country based on their performance in preventing medical errors, infections and other harms among patients in their care.

"I'm grateful for our physicians, nurses, and associates at every level who have worked together to earn this recognition, particularly as we continue to care for our community during the COVID-19 pandemic," said Dawn Rudolph, president of Ascension Sacred Heart Pensacola.. "This recognition provides further evidence that we continue to provide high-quality, compassionate care in the safest possible setting for anyone who needs it."

Leapfrog's ratings of more than 2,700 U.S. hospitals are based on up to 27 measures of safety data such as hand hygiene, discharge communication, patient falls and infections. Leapfrog provides the only hospital ratings program based exclusively on hospitals' prevention of medical errors and other harms to patients in their care.

"An 'A' safety grade is an elite designation that your community should be proud of," said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. "The past year has been extraordinarily difficult for hospitals, but the results at Ascension Sacred Heart show us it is possible to keep a laser focus on patients and their safety, no matter what it takes."

To learn more about the Hospital Safety Grades, visit <https://www.hospitalsafetygrade.org/>.

In 2020, Ascension Sacred Heart Pensacola also was recognized by IBM Watson as one of the 50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals in the United States. The award was based on a study that included 980 U.S. hospitals with cardiovascular service lines. The 50 top hospitals delivered better outcomes while operating more efficiently and at a lower cost.

Earlier this year, Ascension Sacred Heart Pensacola was named to Newsweek's 2021 list of Best Maternity Care Hospitals. Ascension Sacred Heart's hospitals in Pensacola and Miramar Beach were two of only seven hospitals in Florida named to the list.

About Ascension Sacred Heart

Ascension Florida and Gulf Coast includes Ascension Providence in Mobile, Ascension Sacred Heart based in Pensacola, and Ascension St. Vincent's based in Jacksonville, Florida. Ascension Florida and Gulf Coast operates nine hospitals and more than 100 other sites of care, employing more than 13,000 associates. Across the region, Ascension Providence, Ascension Sacred Heart and Ascension St. Vincent's have served North Florida and South Alabama communities for more than 165 years. In fiscal year 2020, Ascension Florida and Gulf Coast provided more than \$237 million in community benefit and care of persons living in poverty. Ascension is a faith-based healthcare organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As one of the leading non-profit and Catholic health systems in the U.S., Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. Nationally, Ascension operates more than 2,600 sites of care – including 146 hospitals and more than 40 senior living facilities – in 19 states and the District of Columbia. For more, visit healthcare.ascension.org.

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