

Date: December 6, 2018  
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**Leapfrog Announces 2018 Top Hospital Award for Pennsylvania Area Hospitals**  
***St. Luke's University Hospital – Bethlehem Campus Receives Coveted National Distinction***

Bethlehem, PA, December 6, 2018 – [The Leapfrog Group](#), a national nonprofit aiming to improve health care quality for consumers, employers and purchasers, announced eight Pennsylvania hospitals named to its 2018 national list of Top Hospitals. The elite award is one of the most competitive honors American hospitals can receive in safety and quality. The winning facilities were officially recognized at Leapfrog's Annual Top Hospitals Ceremony on Tuesday, December 4, in Washington, D.C.

**Pennsylvania's 2018 Top Hospitals**

- UPMC East, Top General Hospital
- Jeanes Hospital, Top Teaching Hospital
- St. Luke's University Hospital – Bethlehem Campus, Top Teaching Hospital
- Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital, Top Teaching Hospital
- Lancaster General Hospital, Top Teaching Hospital
- Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Top Teaching Hospital
- UPMC Bedford Memorial, Top Rural Hospital
- St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, Top Children's Hospital

“The Lehigh Valley Business Coalition on Healthcare would like to recognize local hospital, St. Luke's University Hospital – Bethlehem Campus, for their inclusion on the 2018 Top Hospital list of Top Teaching Hospitals,” said Carl Seitz, President of LVBCH, a Leapfrog Regional Leader. “In addition to St. Luke's participation in coalition events related to quality, the hospital also hosted leadership from the Coalition and Leapfrog at a campus tour earlier this year.”

Leapfrog 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 118 Top Hospitals across the country. Of those, 13 were Top Children's Hospitals, 35 Top General Hospitals, 17 Top Rural Hospitals and 53 Top Teaching Hospitals.

“Leapfrog Top Hospitals have demonstrated excellence in providing safe and high quality care,” said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. “We congratulate the leadership, boards, clinicians, staff and volunteers whose dedication contributed to their hospital's success.”

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 2018 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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