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Pennsylvania Hospitals Recognized Leaders in Caring for People Living with Diabetes By The American Diabetes Association and The Leapfrog Group

Bethlehem, PA – The American Diabetes Association® (ADA) and The Leapfrog Group announced the first hospitals to receive national designation as Recognized Leaders in Caring for People Living with Diabetes. The designation reflects a strong commitment to the safety and well-being of hospitalized people living with diabetes. An estimated 30% of hospitalized people are living with diabetes, and more than 200,000 hospitalized people die every year from preventable safety problems.

Pennsylvania's recipients are Geisinger Lewistown Hospital, Geisinger Medical Center, Geisinger Shamokin Area Community Hospital, Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center, Lehigh Valley Hospital – Cedar Crest, and Lehigh Valley Hospital – Muhlenberg. **Of 17 hospitals nationwide to receive the recognition, six hospitals, or more than 35% of recipients, are located locally in Pennsylvania.**

Lehigh Valley Business Coalition on Healthcare (LVBCH) is a Leapfrog Regional Leader, working with providers, purchasers, payors and patients in Pennsylvania to drive safe, high-quality health care.

“This recognition provides critical patient safety information to individuals living with diabetes,” said Carl Seitz, President, LVBCH. “On behalf of our members and our community we are committed to collaborating with local hospitals to ensure patients in Pennsylvania are receiving the safest possible care. We are proud of our local hospitals that have been recognized.”

“These hospitals are leading the nation in dedication to people with diabetes. Safe, effective, patient-centered care from hospital admission through a patient’s return home lowers risks of serious health complications and improves outcomes for people living with diabetes,” said Robert Gabbay, MD, PhD, the ADA’s chief scientific and medical officer.

“Whatever their reason for admission, hospitalized patients who are living with diabetes are at heightened risk from the preventable errors and accidents that are a problem for all patients in American hospitals,” said Leah Binder, MA, MGA, president & CEO of The Leapfrog Group, an independent national watchdog for patient safety. “We extend our heartfelt congratulations to our first 17 recognized hospitals who are pioneering what we hope is a tidal wave of change in hospitals’ approach to patient safety for people living with diabetes.”

The first-of-its-kind designation program evaluates hospitals based on their care for patients with diabetes during admission, stay and discharge. The program operationalizes the ADA’s globally recognized guidelines for the treatment of patients with diabetes, the Standards of Care in Diabetes—2024, along with Leapfrog standards for excellence in hospital safety and quality. The program aims to counter the heightened safety risks faced by approximately 8 million people living with diabetes who are hospitalized each year.

One in four people admitted to a hospital suffer some form of unintended harm, according to a report by the Office of the Inspector General. Hospitalized people living with diabetes face heightened safety risks including amputation and other complications such as coma and death if mistakes are made in their daily care. Black and Indigenous people, as well as Latinos, are 30% more likely to undergo amputation than non-Hispanic white Americans.

Recognized hospitals provide safe, high-quality care for people living with diabetes, by implementing blood glucose (blood sugar) testing and hypoglycemia protocols, specialized preparation for inpatient surgery, meals and insulin regimen planning, robust discharge planning for high-risk patients with diabetes, among others.

Hospitals earning the Recognized Leader in Caring for People Living with Diabetes designation include:

- California: Mills-Peninsula Medical Center
- New Jersey: AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center—Atlantic City Campus, AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center—Mainland Campus, Hackensack Meridian Jersey Shore University Medical Center
- New York: Glen Cove Hospital
- Ohio: Licking Memorial Hospital, The Christ Hospital
- Pennsylvania: Geisinger Lewistown Hospital, Geisinger Medical Center, Geisinger Shamokin Area Community Hospital, Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center, Lehigh Valley Hospital—Cedar Crest, Lehigh Valley Hospital—Muhlenberg
- Texas: Midland Memorial Hospital, Texas Health Huguley Hospital, Titus County Hospital District dba Titus Regional Medical Center
- Washington: EvergreenHealth

The [application process](#) for the 2025 recognition opens July 1, 2024.

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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.

About The American Diabetes Association

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) is the nation's leading voluntary health organization fighting to bend the curve on the diabetes epidemic and help people living with diabetes thrive. For 83 years, the ADA has driven discovery and research to treat, manage, and prevent diabetes while working relentlessly for a cure. Through advocacy, program development, and education we aim to improve the quality of life for the over 136 million Americans living with diabetes or prediabetes. Diabetes has brought us together. What we do next will make us Connected for Life®. To learn more or to get involved, visit us at diabetes.org or call 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383). Join the fight with us on Facebook ([American Diabetes Association](https://www.facebook.com/AmericanDiabetesAssociation)), Spanish Facebook ([Asociación Americana de la Diabetes](https://www.facebook.com/AsociaciónAmericanaDeLaDiabetes)), LinkedIn ([American Diabetes Association](https://www.linkedin.com/company/american-diabetes-association)), Twitter ([@AmDiabetesAssn](https://twitter.com/AmDiabetesAssn)), and Instagram ([@AmDiabetesAssn](https://www.instagram.com/AmDiabetesAssn)).

About The Leapfrog Group

Founded in 2000 by large employers and other purchasers, [The Leapfrog Group](http://TheLeapfrogGroup.org) is a national nonprofit organization driving a movement for giant leaps for patient safety. The flagship [Leapfrog Hospital Survey](http://LeapfrogHospitalSurvey.org) and new [Leapfrog Ambulatory Surgery Center \(ASC\) Survey](http://LeapfrogAmbulatorySurgeryCenterSurvey.org) collect and [transparently report](http://transparentlyreport.org) 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](http://LeapfrogHospitalSafetyGrade.org), 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](http://follow.us.on.Twitter.and.Facebook.and.sign.up.for.our.newsletter).

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