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Tri-City Medical Center Earns Highest Possible Hospital Safety Score for Sixth Consecutive Time

Oceanside, Calif., April 27, 2016 – Tri-City Medical Center earned its sixth successive A grade in the national Hospital Safety Score ratings program recognizing its exceptional patient safety record. Of the 798 hospitals nationwide to receive the A rating, only five were in San Diego County and Tri-City Medical Center was the only one in North County.

The Hospital Safety Score is the gold standard rating for patient safety, compiled under the guidance of the nation's leading patient safety experts and administered by The Leapfrog Group, a national patient safety watchdog.

"The safety of our patients is of utmost importance, and our board is proud to know that the physicians, nurses and caretakers at Tri-City Medical Center are doing their part to maintain our high standards," said James Dagostino, Tri-City Healthcare District Board Chair.

"We are here to serve the health of our community, and earning an A grade for the sixth consecutive term is the highest reflection of our commitment to our patients," said Steven Dietlin, CEO of Tri-City Medical Center. "Patient safety is our number one priority. I'm extremely pleased that we have consistently received the highest rating possible every six months for the past three years."

Developed under the guidance of Leapfrog's Blue Ribbon Expert Panel, the Hospital Safety Score uses 30 measures of publicly available hospital safety data to assign A, B, C, D and F grades to more than 2,500 U.S. hospitals twice per year. It is calculated by top patient safety experts, peer-reviewed, fully transparent and free to the public. For the first time, the Hospital Safety Score includes five measures of patient-reported experience with the hospital as well as two of the most common infections, C.diff and MRSA.

"Avoidable deaths in hospitals should be the number one concern of our health care leaders. Hospitals that earn an 'A' from Leapfrog are leaders in saving lives, and we commend them and urge their continued vigilance," said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group.

To see Tri-City Medical Center's full score, and to access consumer-friendly tips for patients and loved ones visiting the hospital, visit www.hospitalsafetyscore.org or follow The Hospital Safety Score on Twitter or Facebook. Consumers can also download the free Hospital Safety Score mobile app for Apple and Android devices.

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. Hospital Safety Score, 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.

About Tri City Medical Center

Tri-City Medical Center has served its community for over 50 years and is a 397 bed full service, acute-care hospital in Oceanside, Calif. with a primary care clinic and over 700 physicians practicing in 60 specialties. Its Gold Seal of Approval® from the Joint Commission recognizes its commitment to safe and effective patient care for the residents of the community it serves. It operates the only Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) in North County as well as an Orthopedic & Spine Institute, a Cardiovascular Health Institute and a Neuroscience Institute along with the Tri-City Wellness Center in Carlsbad, Calif., recognized as one of the best wellness centers in San Diego County. It also specializes in women's health, robotic surgery, cancer and emergency care. Tri-City Medical Center has received its sixth consecutive "A" rating from the national hospital safety scoring organization, The Leapfrog Group.

For more information about Tri-City Medical Center and Tri-City Healthcare District, please visit www.tricitymed.org.

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