May 2017

Re: Kaiser Foundation Hospital – Walnut Creek
425 S. Main Street
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

At Kaiser Permanente, we participate in a number of independent reports on quality of care so our members and the public have reliable information to understand the quality of care we deliver, as well as to compare our performance to that of other health care organizations. Results from these reports are summarized below, followed by a brief description of quality activities.

From: The Joint Commission
Accreditation Status / Gold Seal of Approval™

Hospitals that choose to be evaluated by The Joint Commission are demonstrating their commitment to providing the highest level of quality care to their patients. The Joint Commission’s standards are regarded as the most rigorous in the industry, and their Gold Seal of Approval requires compliance with state-of-the-art standards for quality, safety of care, and other accreditation requirements. Kaiser Foundation Hospital (KFH) – Walnut Creek has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval™.

The organization was last accredited on September 17, 2016, and received Advanced Certification in Stroke (Primary Stroke Center) from The Joint Commission effective October 28, 2014.

Walnut Creek’s Quality Report from The Joint Commission is available at:
https://www.qualitycheck.org/quality-report/?bsnId=10183
From: The Leapfrog Hospital Quality and Safety Survey

The Leapfrog Group is a coalition of business, health care, and public organizations working to initiate breakthroughs or "leaps" in the safety and quality of health care in the United States. Leapfrog sponsors an annual survey to gather information from health care providers (including Kaiser Permanente) and to inform the public about aspects of medical care in hospitals. The following represents scores on the Leapfrog survey, submitted January 2017.

Kaiser Foundation Hospital – Walnut Creek

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inpatient Care Management</th>
<th>Medication Safety</th>
<th>Maternity Care</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steps to Avoid Harm</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Managing Serious Errors</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Appropriate Antibiotic Use in Hospitals</td>
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<td>ICU MD Training</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Readmissions for Common Acute</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Ordered Medication</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Safe Medication Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Elective Deliveries</td>
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<td>Caesarean Sections</td>
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<td>Episiotomies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maternity Care Processes</td>
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<tr>
<td>High Risk Deliveries</td>
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<tr>
<td>★★★★★</td>
<td>★★★</td>
<td>★★★★★</td>
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<tr>
<td>★★★★</td>
<td>★★★★★</td>
<td>★★★★★</td>
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<tr>
<td>UCS</td>
<td>★★★★★</td>
<td>★★★★★</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High Risk Surgery Care</th>
<th>Infections</th>
<th>Injuries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aortic Valve Replacements</td>
<td>Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Repairs</td>
<td>Pancreatic Resections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DNA</td>
<td>DNA</td>
<td>★</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Leapfrog Group’s website offers hospital comparison searches: [http://www.leapfroggroup.org/cp](http://www.leapfroggroup.org/cp). The data is updated annually or more frequently from interim reports provided by the hospital. The site contains additional explanation and data on each measure, reached by clicking on the “i” symbol.

Components of the Patient Safety scores containing additional data are explained in detail on Leapfrog’s website: [http://www.hospitalsafetyscore.org/](http://www.hospitalsafetyscore.org/)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kaiser Permanente Key</th>
<th>Progress Toward Meeting Leapfrog Standards</th>
<th>Leapfrog's Website Key</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>★★★★★</td>
<td>Fully meets standards.</td>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Graph" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★★★★</td>
<td>Substantial progress.</td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Graph" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★★★</td>
<td>Some progress.</td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Graph" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>★</td>
<td>Willing to report.</td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="Graph" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DNA</td>
<td>This measure is not applicable to this hospital</td>
<td><img src="image5" alt="DNA" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCS</td>
<td>Sample size too small to calculate score.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Measure Definitions**

- **Steps to Avoid Harm** – Hospital-wide protocols and procedures are key to keeping patients safe from harm.
- **Managing Serious Errors** – Hospitals must be accountable for serious reportable events.
- **Appropriate Antibiotic Use in Hospitals** – Using antibiotics responsibly helps prevent the spread of antibiotic-resistant bacteria.
- **ICU Staffing** – Intensivists in hospital ICUs better manage and coordinate care.
- **Readmissions** – Patients should be discharged with a plan for home health and follow-up care to ensure they are not readmitted.
- **Doctor Ordered Medication with Computers** – Electronic prescribing system alert staff to potentially serious medication errors.
- **Safe Medication Administration** – Special bar coding technology can significantly prevent medication errors.
- **High Risk Treatments** – Hospitals with high volumes of specific high risk procedures, surgeries, or conditions, which often result in the best outcomes — a process known as evidence-based hospital referral.
From: Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems Hospital Survey (Hospital CAHPS®) as reported by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

The CAHPS Hospital Survey (HCAHPS) is the first national publicly reported standardized survey and data collection methodology for measuring all patients' perspectives of their hospital care. CMS posts quarterly updates on HHS’ website. Collection and reporting of data are voluntary.

The results below are from patients discharged between July 2015 and June 2016. Scores reflect the percentage of patients who answered “always” (not “usually”, “sometimes”, or “never”) to six composites and two individual “environment” questions and “yes” to the seventh “discharge information” composite. The questions are described on the following page. Benchmark comparison numbers are determined by CMS and are based on all hospitals participating in California.

*Kaiser Foundation Hospital, Northern California Region*  
*Kaiser Walnut Creek HCAHPS from HHS*

*Nurse Communication*  
- KP Walnut Creek: 75%  
- CA CMS Average: 79%

*MD Communication*  
- KP Walnut Creek: 81%  
- CA CMS Average: 78%

*Staff Responsiveness*  
- KP Walnut Creek: 61%  
- CA CMS Average: 61%

*Pain Management*  
- KP Walnut Creek: 68%  
- CA CMS Average: 72%

*Medicines Explained*  
- KP Walnut Creek: 61%  
- CA CMS Average: 61%

*Cleanliness*  
- KP Walnut Creek: 71%  
- CA CMS Average: 71%

*Quiet*  
- KP Walnut Creek: 43%  
- CA CMS Average: 52%

*Discharge Information*  
- KP Walnut Creek: 52%  
- CA CMS Average: 87%

*After-Care Understanding*  
- KP Walnut Creek: 51%  
- CA CMS Average: 49%

*CMS posts results at [http://www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov](http://www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov) and as a link on [http://www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).*
Scores on the “overall rating” question below are based on a 0-10 scale, worst to best, and represent answers of **9 and 10**. Scores on the “recommend to friend” question are based on a 1-4 scale, ranging from “definitely no” to “definitely yes,” and reflect answers of “**definitely yes**.” Again, benchmark comparison numbers are determined by CMS and are based on all hospitals participating in California.

![Bar chart showing KP Walnut Creek HCAHPS from HHS*](chart.png)

**HCAHPS Summary Star Rating: ***.** HCAHPS summary star ratings provide a snapshot of the 11 measures of patient experience of care on Hospital Compare in a single, comprehensive metric. [http://www.medicare.gov/hospitalcompare/About/HCAHPS-Star-Ratings.html](http://www.medicare.gov/hospitalcompare/About/HCAHPS-Star-Ratings.html)

### Descriptions of Questions

The seven composites are composed of the following questions:

- **Nurse Communication** results are a composite of three questions asking how often nurses treated you with courtesy and respect, carefully listened to you, and explained things in a way you could understand.

- **MD Communication** results are a composite of three questions asking how often doctors treated you with courtesy and respect, carefully listened to you, and explained things in a way you could understand.

- **Staff Responsiveness** results are a composite of two questions asking how often you got help as soon as you needed it from nurses or other hospital staff in getting to the bathroom or using a bedpan and after pressing the call button.

- **Pain Management** results are a composite of two questions asking how often your pain was well controlled and if the staff did everything they could help with your pain.

- **Medicines Explained** results are a composite of two questions asking how often staff told you what a new medicine was for before giving it to you and how often the staff described possible side effects in a way you could understand.

- **Discharge Information** results are a composite of two questions asking if doctors, nurses, or other hospital staff talked with you about whether you would have the help you needed when you left the hospital.

- **Care Transition** results are a composite of three questions asking about your understanding of your after-care for when you leave the hospital.

Two individual questions on hospital environment:

- How often were your room and bathroom kept **clean**?
- How often was the area around your room **quiet** at night?

And two questions relating to overall evaluation:

- How do you rate the hospital **overall**?
- Would you **recommend** the hospital to a friend?
Kaiser Permanente Walnut Creek Medical Center consists of one Kaiser Foundation Hospital-owned medical center (general acute care hospital with adjacent medical office building) located in Walnut Creek, and serves approximately 281,649 members and those in the surrounding communities. It also includes four satellite medical office buildings located in Livermore, Martinez, Pleasanton, and Walnut Creek. An ambulatory surgery center is located in our Pleasanton medical office building. An outpatient peritoneal dialysis center is located on our Martinez campus. Our Walnut Creek acute care hospital, GI procedure suite, Martinez Special Procedure Center (SPC), and Home Health and Hospice programs are Joint Commission accredited.

At Kaiser Foundation Hospital (KFH) Walnut Creek, we are proud to deliver high-quality health care to the communities we serve. At our request, The Joint Commission surveys our hospital every three years to evaluate the health care services we provide. This survey is one of the industry’s most thorough evaluations of quality and safety of care. We are proud to be fully accredited by The Joint Commission and to have achieved The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval®. The organization was last accredited on October 28, 2014, and is reevaluated by The Joint Commission every two to three years.

We are also accredited by The Joint Commission as a Disease-Specific Primary Stroke Center. We follow The Joint Commission’s National Quality Improvement Goals for heart attack care, heart failure care, surgical care improvement, perinatal care, pneumonia care, and smoking cessation. Furthermore, we have received the following recognitions, accreditations and survey success:

- The American Heart and American Stroke Association’s Get With The Guidelines® - Stroke Gold+ quality Achievement Award, Target: Stroke Honor Roll Award and “Get With the Guidelines® Heart Failure”
- American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP): Our surgical care program has been recognized as providing exemplary care in various metrics (preventing mortality, pneumonia, and return to OR in Vascular patients, preventing surgical site infections among Orthopedic patients, preventing renal failure in Urology patients), and in meeting benchmarks for preventing surgical complications (morbidity, pneumonia, urinary
tract and surgical site infections, return to OR, and readmissions) for most surgical procedures.

- The Commission on Cancer certified our Walnut Creek Cancer Care Program in 2014 with five commendations (in Nursing, Clinical Trials, Pathology, Annual Report, and Registry).

- Walnut Creek Medication Error Reduction Program (MERP) 2013: This program is evaluated every three years by a rigorous survey by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). Our 2013 survey validated that our medication management and safe practices met or exceeded CDPH medication safety standards and error reduction strategies.

- Medical Education: In 2012 the KFH Walnut Creek Continuing Medical Education program was reaccredited by the Institute for Medical Quality (IMQ). This accreditation reflects our continuing commitment to the health of our members — one way we support this commitment is by providing continuous training and education to our outstanding medical staff.

KFH Walnut Creek is a Joint Commission certified Primary Stroke Center, which is required for Contra Costa County Emergency Medical System (EMS) to designate Walnut Creek to receive stroke patients. In addition, the Contra Costa County EMS also designated Walnut Creek to receive and treat patients with ST elevation myocardial infarctions (STEMI). We continue to be a strong contributor to the State of California study of elective percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI), commonly known as angioplasty and continue to provide this often life-saving cardiac service.

In addition to high-quality health care, patient safety is of utmost concern to KFH Walnut Creek. We believe that everyone working at Kaiser Permanente is responsible for ensuring our patients’ safety, and we encourage our physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and employees to do everything possible to help keep patients safe. Kaiser Permanente has a long history of emphasizing patient safety, and we continually develop, test, and implement new programs that help ensure patient safety, including fall prevention, medication safety, early sepsis recognition and treatment, infection prevention, and reduction of surgical complications.

KFH Walnut Creek follows all of The Joint Commission’s National Patient Safety Goals, and is an active participant with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) to locally implement IHI’s national patient safety initiatives.

We look forward to serving you in all your health care needs.