

Keeping Brooklyn Healthy

LEAPFROG "A" AND
BARIATRIC SURGERY 

LEAPFROG "A" AND
SPINAL SURGERY 

LEAPFROG "A" AND
HEART CARE 

LEAPFROG "A" AND
ORTHOPAEDICS 

Brooklyn's Highest Rated Hospital in Patient Safety

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

A

FALL 2018

LEAPFROG
HOSPITAL
SAFETY
GRADE



MESSAGE FROM TBHC'S PRESIDENT: TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT TBHC!

I am thrilled to announce that The Brooklyn Hospital Center (TBHC) has received the highest grade “A” for patient safety from the prestigious Leapfrog Group.

TBHC is one of only two hospitals in all of New York City to get an “A” and is the only A-rated hospital in Brooklyn. In fact, only 8 percent of hospitals in the entire State of New York received this highest grade.

Gary G. Terrinoni

This “A” is really the culmination of a story we began in late 2015. Since then, TBHC has invested millions of dollars to hire top doctors and specialists who have created new approaches to care and have ensured a quality environment for patients.

Among the changes TBHC made and planned are:

- A new critical care initiative that improves outcomes for the sickest patients.
- The launch of the Epic electronic medical record, which provides better coordination of care.
- A \$23 million transformation grant to renovate the Emergency Department, beginning early 2019.
- A renovation plan for TBHC’s Downtown Brooklyn campus.
- An expansion of the hospital’s ambulatory network into the surrounding communities.

We are doing sound and savvy planning to Keep Brooklyn Healthy today and into the future. And, we are excited to be celebrating our 175th anniversary in 2020. These achievements—and, of course, this “A”—gives patients and the community an excellent reason to take another look at TBHC.

FAQS ABOUT THE LEAPFROG “A”

Q: What is Leapfrog and what does the grade measure?

A: The Leapfrog Group is a national nonprofit healthcare ratings organization that grades approximately 2,500 hospitals across the country on how well they keep patients safe from harm. Developed under the guidance of a Blue Ribbon National Expert Panel, the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade uses multiple measures of hospital safety data to assign letter grades to hospitals twice per year.

Q: Has The Brooklyn Hospital Center (TBHC) received an “A” before?

A: This is our first one! In fact, just three years ago, TBHC set out to become a high-reliable organization.

Implementation of many patient-safety best practices resulted in significant reductions in infections and hospital-acquired conditions. These efforts resulted in a “C” in 2017 (a typical grade for New York City hospitals). In spring 2018, we received a “B”, which, at the time, was the best grade in Brooklyn. This “A” is a direct reflection of TBHC’s emphasis on quality and patient safety during the last three years.

Q: What does the “A” mean for TBHC’s future?

A: In the securing this Leapfrog “A” grade, we are reinforcing the foundation of TBHC as a patient-focused institution and a pillar of our community. As we approach our 175th anniversary, as well prepare for the exciting real estate and strategic developments slated for the next years, patients and the community should know that they made a good choice in The Brooklyn Hospital Center. This is the bigger picture! The smaller picture—how the “A” affects specific departments, doctors and patients is a more nuanced story, or rather stories. See next two pages for some examples of safety and quality in action!



WHAT QUALITY MEANS TO PATIENTS

It's one thing for TBHC to tell the community, staff, physicians and patients that we received this prestigious grade, it's another to hear from our patients what excellence means in their lives.

Patient safety + bariatric surgery = finally losing the weight



"I had uncontrollable diabetes and weighed 205 pounds. Today, I am 137 pounds and my diabetes is under control. With the help of Dr. Prat, and the rest of the Weight Loss Center, I'm looking forward to a longer, happy life." —Bariatric patient Diana Walton

Patient safety + spinal surgery = renewed hope



"I had been treated by countless medical professionals who consistently told me I had to learn to live with my condition. Years were stolen, spent in bed, unable to move. Dr. Cohen and his team did for me what no other doctor had been able to: they fixed my condition." —Spinal patient Barbara Williams

Patient safety + orthopaedic surgery = moving pain free



"I tripped and hurt my knee, but I was afraid of surgery. Finally my acupuncturist told me, 'Go to Dr. Joseph Fetto at The Brooklyn Hospital Center.' From the welcome, to the nurses at bedside, to transport, to the procedure itself, everyone was lovely. In three weeks, I was back in a dance class."

—Orthopaedic surgery patient Elspeth Macdonald

Patient safety + world-class heart care = local, lifesaving treatment



"I was running when I collapsed and was rushed to TBHC. After a week in a medically induced coma, I was transferred to Mount Sinai, all seamlessly because of the comprehensive cardiac collaboration between the two hospitals. If it weren't for TBHC, I'm quite sure I would not be here."

—Heart patient Michael Gillman



The Brooklyn
Hospital Center

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Bariatric surgery

Spinal surgery

Orthopaedic surgery

Heart care

Interested?

Visit tbh.org/find-physician
or call 1.833.TBHC.NOW

WHAT QUALITY MEANS TO PHYSICIANS

Patient safety + bariatric surgery = finally losing the weight



“The Leapfrog ‘A’ means it’s not just us saying, ‘Take our word for it.’ It’s a great thing for our staff and patients. It will help us continue to deliver exceptional care and recruit even more to-quality physicians.”

—Pratibha “Prat” Vemulapalli, MD, TBHC
Chair of Surgery

Patient safety + spinal surgery = renewed hope



“TBHC embraces safe, quality minimally invasive techniques, including state-of-the-art robotic surgery. We perform surgery that minimizes the disturbance to tissues, muscles, ligaments, blood vessels and organs, meaning better outcomes for our patients.”

—Anders Cohen, DO, TBHC Director of
Neurosciences Center

Patient safety + orthopaedic surgery = moving pain free



“This ‘A’ rating shows that what we are doing is working, and it’s working, in large part, due to the promise of support. When our outcomes show direct improvement, success begets greater success, and we have more opportunities to grow and help our patients.”

—Joseph Fetto, MD, TBHC Division Chief,
Orthopaedic Surgery

Patient safety + world-class heart care = local, lifesaving treatment



“With the expansion of our cardiac intervention services and our partnership with Mount Sinai, our heart experts are able to offer a full spectrum of high-quality cardiac care. When every second counts, our community can count on TBHC before, during and after a cardiac event.”

—Srinivas Kesankurthy, MD, TBHC Director
of the Brooklyn Heart Center