What makes a hospital one of the best in the nation? In addition to providing top-notch medical care for patients, leaders at the best hospitals and healthcare organizations must think beyond immediate results – they must improve efficiency, processes, financial stability, and value to the community over the long term. Leaders must be dedicated to continual self-evaluation and improvement.

The Truven Health 100 Top Hospitals program uses independent and objective research to guide hospital and health system performance. We analyze public data sources to compare hospitals to similar organizations. There is no application process and no costs associated with winning the award. Simply put, our goal is to use objective data to find the top-performing organizations in the country and highlight their achievements to enable all healthcare leaders to target their own best performance.

The 100 Top Hospitals program uses a balanced scorecard that incorporates public data; proprietary, peer-reviewed methodology; and key performance metrics to arrive at an objective, independent analysis of hospital or health system performance. Our research measures performance, organizational alignment, progress against business goals, and demonstrates the value that an award-winning organization provides to patients.

**FACT:** If all hospitals performed at the same level as the 100 Top Hospitals® 2012 award winners, 186,000 additional lives could be saved, 56,000 additional patients could be complication free, $4.3 billion could be saved, and the average patient stay could decrease by nearly half a day.
“We refuse to accept the status quo and realize that healthcare delivery in the U.S. is not as good as it needs to be. It is our job to be cognizant of what we can do to improve, and never settle for less than the best.”

Mark Neaman, CEO
NorthShore University Health System
Evanston, IL
More than 10-time 100 Top Hospitals award winner

Independent Performance Research
The program features three annual research studies. Each study names winners of the 100 Top Hospitals award and presents a set of research findings related to the performance of the top organizations.

100 Top Hospitals
The 100 Top Hospitals award identifies the highest-performing acute care hospitals in the nation. This study benchmarks the industry's management and clinical outcomes to help hospital leaders assess organizational performance and effectiveness. Winners of this award provide the highest quality care in the most efficient manner, maintain top financial stability, and elicit the highest patient perception of care.

Performance measures are centered on:
- Clinical outcomes – including patient survival and complications
- Clinical process – following accepted care protocols
- Extended patient outcomes
- Efficiency – including average length of stay and costs
- Financial health
- Consumer assessment of care

The 100 Top Hospitals study also honors a special group of high performers, the 100 Top Hospitals Everest Award winners. Hospitals that win this award are setting national benchmarks for both long-term improvement over five years and top one-year performance.

15 Top Health Systems
The 15 Top Health Systems award identifies the best-performing health systems in the nation. This study measures the performance of a health system as a single organization and includes clinical quality and efficiency measures. The study highlights the potential for health system leaders to impact quality initiatives, improve perceptions, and increase value to the community.

Performance measures are centered on:
- Clinical outcomes – including patient survival and complications
- Clinical process – following accepted care protocols
- Efficiency – including average length of stay and costs
- Consumer assessment of care

50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals
The 50 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals award identifies hospitals that demonstrate the highest performance in hospital cardiovascular services. This study provides hospital executives, physicians, and cardiovascular service line managers with intelligence reflecting the rapid improvement of cardiovascular outcomes and new targets for achieving the best performance.

Performance measures are centered on:
- Clinical outcomes – including patient survival and complications
- Clinical process – following accepted care protocols
- Extended patient outcomes
- Efficiency – including average length of stay and costs

Unbiased, Objective Measurement
- Hospitals do not apply or pay for our awards — it is an honor achieved through the strength of their performance.
- Our awards are independent and objective, based on research and data.
- A balanced scorecard approach assesses all aspects of a hospital's performance.
Know Where Your Organization Stands

Benchmark Reports from the 100 Top Hospitals program are an organization’s report card on performance. Benchmark Reports contain detailed performance insights and analysis to help you identify opportunities to make the greatest impact on your organization’s performance and understand your organization’s position compared to similar organizations.

A suite of reports provides in-depth analyses of your organization’s performance. With easy-to-read graphs and charts, these reports make it clear whether your organization is achieving its goals.

Benchmark Reports can help you:
- Benchmark against top performers, peers, and competitors
- Understand progress toward mission and goals
- Easily share reports with colleagues and boards
- Track alignment across member hospitals
- Know competitive position
- Specialized reports are available to analyze hospitals, health systems, and compare performance to key competitors.

Honoring Leadership Excellence

- Award-winning hospitals are run by strong leadership teams that encourage their entire organization, including doctors, nurses, and staff, to work together to deliver efficient, quality care to patients.
- Award-winning hospitals are leaders in the healthcare community and prove that better care is possible across the industry.

A Distinctive Honor

Since the program started in 1993, no hospital has won each year, and only a small handful of hospitals have won the award 10 times or more.