

For release week of 2.25.13 [Third of four messages]

Magnet Matters

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Magnet and Our Community

It bears reviewing: Our successful pursuit of the Magnet Recognition Program® in 2008 placed us among the top **five** percent of hospitals nationwide, in terms of quality patient care, nursing excellence, and innovation in nursing practice. We brought this level of care to our own East Bay communities.

We should all take a moment to re-absorb this, especially since challenging times tend to put an emphasis on other things. We must not forget how important it is to maintain this dramatic measure of excellence that truly sets John Muir Health apart and gives our community such an excellent option for care.

What does it look like from the outside? Here is what our patients and their families are attracted to:

- Magnet hospitals consistently outperform others by achieving better outcomes, better patient safety, and increased patient satisfaction.
- Magnet nurses have advanced education and certification.
- Magnet hospitals attract highly qualified nurses, clinicians and physicians.

These points may be reason enough to choose John Muir Health over other options. But a question came up from the nursing staff about some of the *other* awards John Muir Health and its medical centers have earned. In spite of the changes going on in health care, and working to do more with less, we have climbed to some amazing heights.

At John Muir Medical Center, Walnut Creek, we earned 2012 and 2013 Healthgrades Awards ranking us among America's 100 Best Hospitals. Healthgrades also named us a Distinguished Hospital for Clinical Excellence, and presented us with Excellence Awards in Emergency Medicine, Gastrointestinal Care, General Surgery, Neurosurgery, and Pulmonary Care.

US News & World Report ranks us #2 among 45 hospitals in the SF Bay Area. In 2011 and 2012, we were the only non-academic hospital to appear in the Top 50. Most recently (2012) we have 22 services nationally ranked or highly rated.

Becker's Hospital Review lists us among its 100 Great Community Hospitals.

Our two medical centers at John Muir Health hold Gold Performance Achievement status from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Get with the Guidelines program. We are Blue Distinction Centers for Hip and Knee Replacement/Spine Surgery and Cardiac Care.

We have a Certified Quality Breast Center of Excellence, Chest Pain Center Accreditation, The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval accreditation, and it's Gold Seal of Approval for certification as Primary Stroke Centers.

And those are just some of our highlights.

It feels great to be part of an organization of this caliber. As we work towards Magnet re-certification, to further distinguish ourselves for the care and the patient experience that *you* provide, we must continue to see every patient encounter as a special connection. As we have said, and as you know instinctively, the Magnet journey starts in the heart, and affects every patient you touch.

You are the reason that our community can choose a Magnet-designated hospital for care. And this community knows the Magnet difference you make.

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