## "America's Best Hospital"

as named by *U.S.News & World Report* for Orthopedic Care

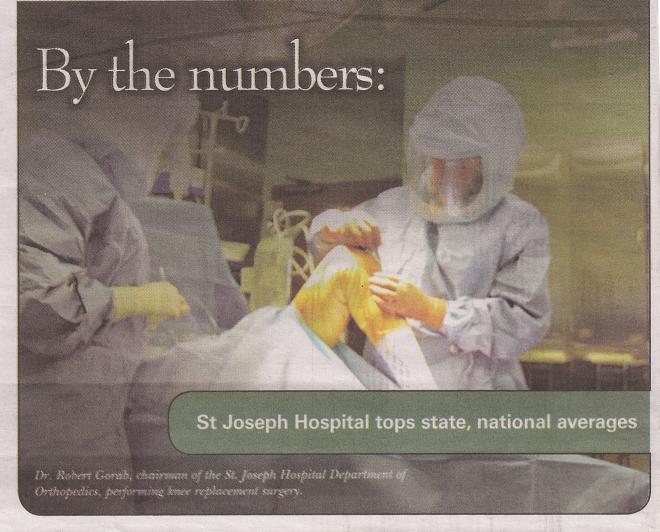
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St. Joseph Hospital ST. JOSEPH HEALTH SYSTEM

A Ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange Best Hospitals



By J. Anderson

urveys from a variety of sources show that orthopedic patients at St. Joseph Hospital are some of the most satisfied patients in America. One survey, done by California HealthCare Foundation (www.calhospitalcompare.org), reveals that St. Joseph Hospital received the highest possible rating for surgical patient experience by an impressive margin.

Where the overall hospital rating for all surgical procedures was 61 percent statewide, it was 84 percent at St. Joseph Hospital of Orange. In terms of surgical infection and appropriate use, timing, and discontinuation of antibiotics, the hospital scored from three to 14 percentage points above the state average.

Another batch of ratings presented by Hospital Consumer Assessment of Health Providers and Systems had St. Joseph Hospital consistently beating the database average in favorable replies when patients responded to questions regarding patient-doctor relationships in the Orthopedic Unit. Topics included whether or not the doctors listened well, treated the patients with courtesy and respect, and explained things so they could be easily understood. Even higher marks were given to the Orthopedic Unit staff in several areas, particularly the prompt and efficient care of individual needs — in that category, St. Joseph Hospital scored 93, compared to a database average of 88.5.

The California Institute for Health Systems Performance Patients' Evaluation of Performance Survey also shows above-average ratings for St. Joseph Hospital in patient preference and coordination of care. And U.S. News & World Report, which ranked St. Joseph Hospital as one of the top 50 orthopedics hospitals in America, found that the hospital's mortality rate was extremely low compared to national averages.

Avatar International Inc., which specializes in patient surveys, revealed that St. Joseph Hospital patients rated the hospital five percent higher than other hospitals providing orthopedic services. They marked "Strong Agreement" with three key statements:

- Would prefer to return to St. Joseph Hospital without hesitation if care is needed.
- Compared to other local/regional hospitals, St. Joseph Hospital provides the best care.
- Would recommend St. Joseph Hospital without hesitation to others.

Beyond the crunched numbers, St. Joseph Hospital's Chairman of the Department of Orthopedics Dr. Robert Gorab says it best:

"After surgery, patients experience a much better quality of life. Patients who have surgery at our hospital report improvements in pain, movement, state of mind, and overall health that are far higher than the national average."

St. Joseph Hospital is at 1100 West Stewart Drive in Orange. For information, call 714-633-9111 or visit www.sjo.org.