



NEWS RELEASE  
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## **St. Luke's Boise and Meridian Hospitals in the Top 100 Nationwide**

**-- St. Luke's recognized for exemplary performance by Thomson Reuters --**

For a seventh time, and the third year in a row, Thomson Reuters has recognized St. Luke's Boise and Meridian Hospitals for exemplary care and performance.

St. Luke's joins an elite group of hospitals to be included in the 2009 Thomson 100 Top Hospitals National Benchmarks study released Monday, which recognizes the nation's top hospitals based on organizational performance. St. Luke's was the only Idaho hospital to make the list, and one of only four in the West.

"Being recognized as a Top 100 Hospital is a major achievement and speaks volumes about our ongoing efforts to provide the highest quality health care in the region," said Gary Fletcher, CEO of Boise/Meridian Medical Center.

The Thomson Reuters study evaluates performance in 10 areas: mortality, medical complications, patient safety, average length of stay, expenses, profitability, patient satisfaction, adherence to clinical standards of care, and post-discharge mortality and readmission rates for acute myocardial infarction, heart failure, and pneumonia. The study has been conducted annually since 1993.

This is the seventh time St. Luke's has been named on the list. The hospital was included from 1993 to 1995 and then again in 2004, 2007 and 2008. In November 2009, St. Luke's also received its second consecutive recognition as a Thomson Reuters 100 Top Hospital for Cardiovascular Care.

St. Luke's is one of only 13 hospitals nationwide to have made the list seven or more times. Other repeat hospitals include the Mayo Clinic and Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

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“Being a part of such a respected group of hospitals is a tremendous honor and one our community should be proud of,” Fletcher said. “The credit for such an achievement must go to our dedicated staff, physicians, volunteers and community board members who all strive for excellence by always putting the needs of our patients first.”

“This year’s study magnified the value that 100 Top Hospital award winners provide to their communities. Even during the economic downturn, the 100 Top Hospitals maintained a profit from operations while raising the bar for clinical quality and patient satisfaction,” said Jean Chenoweth, senior vice president for performance improvement and 100 Top Hospitals programs at Thomson Reuters. “The insistence of these hospitals’ leaders — their boards, executive teams and medical staffs — on overall excellence makes the difference.”

If all Medicare inpatients received the same level of care as those treated in the 100 Top Hospitals award winners, the study concluded that:

- More than 98,000 additional patients would survive each year.
- More than 197,000 patient complications would be avoided annually.
- Expenses would decline by an aggregate \$5.5 billion a year.
- The average patient stay would decrease by nearly half a day.

To conduct the 100 Top Hospitals study, Thomson Reuter’s researchers evaluated 2,926 short-term, acute care, non-federal hospitals. They used public information — Medicare cost reports, Medicare Provider Analysis and Review (MedPAR) data, and core measures and patient satisfaction data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Hospital Compare data set.

For more information about the Thomson 100 Top Hospitals National Benchmarks for Success study, visit [www.100tophospitals.com](http://www.100tophospitals.com).

### **About Thomson Reuters**

The Healthcare division of Thomson Reuters produces insights, information, benchmarks and analysis that enable organizations to manage costs, improve performance and enhance the quality of healthcare. For more information, go to [www.thomsonreuters.com](http://www.thomsonreuters.com).

### **About St. Luke's Health System**

St. Luke’s Health System is Idaho’s largest and only locally controlled health care system employing more than 7,800 people. With hospitals in Boise, Meridian, Ketchum and Twin Falls, St. Luke’s provides patients with unmatched care in specialized medical fields including cancer, heart and vascular, obstetrics, women’s services and children’s health care. To find out more, visit [www.stlukesonline.org](http://www.stlukesonline.org).