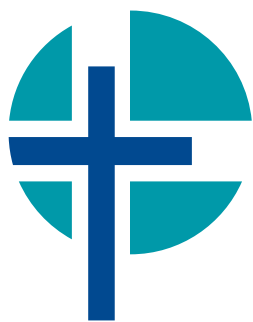


December
2022



SAINT PETER'S HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Safely treating you better...for life.

Saint Peter's is

First in New Jersey to Earn The Joint Commission's Level IV Maternal Care Verification

Recognition for delivering the highest level of comprehensive care for expectant mothers and newborns

The Joint Commission's Maternal Levels of Care (MLC) Verification program, offered in collaboration with the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), has named Saint Peter's University Hospital as a Level IV maternal care verified facility. Saint Peter's is the first in New Jersey to receive this new prestigious designation – and the highest level to be achieved – from The Joint Commission.

The Joint Commission's Maternal Levels of Care Verification program provides an objective evaluation of a healthcare facility's capabilities. It verifies that a hospital has the expertise, equipment and resources in place for a patient's specific needs and risk level. As a Level IV facility, Saint Peter's is recognized for its onsite medical and surgical care of the most complex maternal conditions and critically ill pregnant women and babies before, during and after pregnancy. Saint Peter's recently expanded the ability to view fetal heart rate monitoring for a mother—whether she's in labor and delivery or in the adult intensive care unit (ICU)—by looking at one big monitor that's tracking all



the information for healthcare providers on all floors. This procedure increases situational awareness between healthcare providers, allowing them to monitor what's happening with each mother and baby on each unit.

"It is a tremendous honor to be the first hospital in New Jersey to receive The Joint Commission's Maternal Levels of Care Verification as a Level IV facility," said Carlos Benito, MD, chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Saint Peter's University Hospital. "While Saint Peter's has long been recognized regionally for its comprehensive care for expectant mothers and newborns, The Joint Commission's verification offers further validation that we are equipped to deliver all levels of care from low-risk to the most complicated cases."



Saint Peter's also earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® for Perinatal Care, a symbol of quality that reflects the organization's commitment to providing safe and quality patient care for mothers and infants leading up to, during and after birth. Saint Peter's has a state-designated Regional Perinatal Center that includes a nationally recognized Level IV NICU for premature or fragile newborns who need specialty care. The NICU team has earned the Beacon Award for Excellence from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses for three consecutive terms.

For women who are experiencing a low-risk pregnancy and looking for an alternative birthing experience, Saint Peter's opened the Mary V. O'Shea Birth Center in 2019 – New Jersey's first midwifery-led birth center to be located on the grounds of a hospital and accredited by the Commission for the Accreditation of Birth Centers. The midwifery model of care embraces pregnancy and birth as a normal physiologic process, highlighting shared decision-making, minimal interventions, and the empowerment of women as partners in their care.



Maternal Levels of Care

Level IV status includes verification for meeting the criteria required for Level I which is defined as "basic care" – caring for low- to moderate-risk pregnancies, demonstrating the ability to detect, stabilize, and initiate management of unanticipated maternal-fetal or neonatal problems that occur during antepartum, intrapartum, or postpartum period until the patient can be transferred to a facility at which the specialty maternal care is available, such as Saint Peter's. Level II is assessed as a hospital's ability to offer "specialty care," which includes meeting Level I criteria plus moderate- to high-risk antepartum, intrapartum, and postpartum conditions. Level III is assessed as offering "subspecialty care," meaning that in addition to meeting the criteria for Levels I and II, the facility must show the ability to care for more complex maternal medical conditions, obstetric complications and fetal conditions.

Saint Peter's underwent a comprehensive two-day on-site review by a Joint Commission surveyor to verify the level of care provided. In addition to speaking directly with patients and tracking them through all phases of care, the surveyor interviewed staff; assessed Saint Peter's performance improvement plan; reviewed staff education; and completed a full review of the hospital's credentialing/privileging process related to maternal health care. Unit tours included observation and inspection of every stage of care and interaction, from admission to labor and delivery, as well as to the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). The assessment also included oversight of processes related to patient education and staff communication.

"The Joint Commission commends Saint Peter's University Hospital for being named a Level IV maternal care verified facility and for its efforts to standardize maternal care and reduce maternal morbidity and mortality," says Mark Pelletier, RN, MS, chief operating officer, Accreditation and Certification Operations, and chief nursing executive, The Joint Commission. "The Maternal Levels of Care Verification program will help Saint Peter's strengthen regionalized care for mothers and babies in its community."

To learn more about Saint Peter's comprehensive maternity services, please visit saintpetershcs.com/maternity.

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U.S. News & World Report Names Saint Peter's University Hospital a High Performing Hospital in Four Adult Specialties

COPD, HIP FRACTURE, KIDNEY FAILURE AND LUNG CANCER SURGERY

Saint Peter's University Hospital has been recognized as a High Performing Hospital for 2022-23 by *U.S. News & World Report*, the global authority in hospital rankings and consumer advice. Saint Peter's earned "High Performing" ratings in COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease), Hip Fracture, Kidney Failure and Lung Cancer Surgery in recognition of care that was significantly better than the national average, as measured by factors such as patient outcomes. "High Performing" is the highest rating *U.S. News* awards for those types of care.

"Recognition from an external authority, especially one as prestigious as *U.S. News & World Report* is truly an honor and speaks to Saint Peter's ongoing commitment to providing the highest quality medical care each and every day," said Leslie D. Hirsch, FACHE, president and CEO of Saint Peter's Healthcare System. "To be designated among the top in the nation in these specific practice areas is a nod to our dedicated team of clinicians who treat those with such conditions, while also offering patients the confidence they seek while exploring the variety of healthcare options available to them."

The annual Procedures & Conditions ratings are designed to assist patients and their doctors in making informed decisions about where to receive care for challenging health conditions or elective procedures. These ratings extend the *U.S. News* mission of providing consumers with patient decision support beyond the Best Hospitals rankings, which are geared toward complex specialty care.

For the 2022-2023 Best Hospitals rankings and ratings, *U.S. News* evaluated more than 4,500 hospitals across 15 specialties and 20 procedures and conditions. Fewer than half of all hospitals received any High Performing rating.

"When patients are considering their options for care, the Best Hospitals ratings are designed to help them identify hospitals that excel in the kind of care they may need," said Ben Harder, chief of health analysis and managing editor at *U.S. News*. "A hospital that's earned a High Performing rating in a service may be a good option for patients in need of that service and their medical professionals to consider."

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Community Calendar

For more information or to register for a program, call the contact number listed or visit saintpetershcs.com/Events. Most programs are FREE unless noted; please call for information.

Cancer Support

Bone Marrow Transplant

For patients who have had an allogeneic transplant
Call for information: 732.235.8522

Breast Cancer

Call for information: 732.235.7011

Gynecologic Cancer

In partnership with the Cancer Support Community Central New Jersey
Call for information: 732.235.6792

Living with Cancer

Call for information: 732.235.7557

Diabetes Education*

For information about classes, call the numbers listed below.

Diabetes Self-Management Education

Call for information: 732.339.7630

Gestational Diabetes Self-Management Education

Call for information: 732.339.7630

Prevent T2 Program

Call for information and registration: 732.339.7772

"SEASON OF GIVING"

BLOOD AND PLATELET DRIVE

December 9, 2022 • 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Saint Peter's University Hospital
254 Easton Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ

Scan the QR code to make an appointment.



Parent Education

Parenting classes are currently being held online. Register at saintpetershcs.com/Services/Parent-Education. Once registered for a class, access information will be provided to you. For information about the following classes, please call Parent Education at 732.745.8579

Baby Care

Birth Center Class
(for moms under midwifery care)

Breastfeeding Class

Breastfeeding Support Group

Grandparents Class

Hypnobirthing

Marvelous Multiples

New Daddy Class

New Mom Support Group

Prenatal Yoga & Exercise Class

Prepared Childbirth/Lamaze Classes

Sibling Class

Spinning Babies

VIRTUAL TOY DRIVE

BENEFITING THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AT SAINT PETER'S UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL



Donate today!



Support Groups

Bariatric Nutrition Support Group

2nd Thursday of each month
Next meeting: December 8 • 6 - 7 pm
Call 732.339.7450 for Zoom meeting information

Bereavement

Call Pastoral Care for information: 732.745.8565

Craniofacial Teen Girls

Call for information: 732.745.8600, x8113

MyGoal Autism Family

2nd Sunday of each month
Next meeting: December 11 • 3 pm
Call 877.886.9462 or email info@mygoalautism.org for virtual meeting details

SHARE

3rd Thursday of each month
Next meeting: December 15 • 7 - 9 pm
Call 732.745.8522 or email imariano@saintpetersuh.com for Zoom link

Spouse/Partner Caregiver Support Group

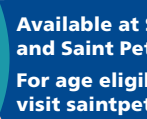
Call for information: 732.745.8600, x8653

Weight Loss Seminars

4th Tuesday of each month
Next meetings: December 27
English 4 - 5 pm • Spanish 5 - 6 pm
For information call 732.745.8555

COVID-19 Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccines

Available at Saint Peter's University Hospital and Saint Peter's Family Health Center.
For age eligibility and clinic dates, visit saintpetershcs.com/covidvaccine



254 Easton Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901
732.745.8600 | 800.269.7508 | saintpetershcs.com

Sponsored by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Metuchen
State-designated children's hospital and regional perinatal center

