



CONTACT:

Nikyah Pfeiffer
(909) 335-5533

NT1@redlandshospital.org

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REDLANDS COMMUNITY HOSPITAL IS ONE OF TOP 111 HOSPITALS IN CALIFORNIA TO BE RECOGNIZED FOR REDUCING C-SECTION RATES

Hospital Participates in Nationwide Effort to Reduce C-section Rates

REDLANDS, Calif. (Jan. 19, 2018) – This week, Health and Human Services Secretary Diana Dooley recognized Redlands Community Hospital as one of the top 111 hospitals in the State for meeting or exceeding a federal goal for reducing Cesarean births for first-time moms with low-risk pregnancies. Redlands Community Hospital has earned this recognition for a second consecutive year.

Secretary Dooley announced the achievement awards to the hospitals on behalf of Smart Care California, a coalition of public and private health care purchasers that collectively cover more than 16 million people statewide — or 40 percent of all Californians.

“Patient safety is the top priority at Redlands Community Hospital and this recognition by the State is a testament to our maternity department’s commitment to providing women with exceptional maternal care,” said Jim Holmes, president and CEO of Redlands Community Hospital. “Our physicians, nurses and maternity support staff share a common goal to reduce c-section rates for the benefit of both mothers and their babies.”

Research finds that after two decades of annual increases, there has been progress in reducing the state’s low-risk first birth C-section rate. The 111 hospitals that made the

Smart Care C-Section Honor Roll account for 45 percent of the 242 hospitals that offer maternity services in California. The federal goal is to lower the C-section rate for low-risk, first-time births to 23.9 percent by 2020.

“The decline in California’s rate for low-risk, first birth C-sections will lead to healthier babies and mothers,” said CHHS Secretary Diana Dooley. “Thanks to the hospitals and their staff for their hard work in achieving this measurable progress.”

Through funding from the California Health Care Foundation, the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative (CMQCC) offers an online toolkit to provide hospital care teams with resources to better support vaginal delivery.

“One of the most important things we can do to make California’s health care system smarter is to help hospitals, physicians and nurses ensure that C-sections are only performed when medically necessary,” Dooley said. “Today’s award recipients represent an honor roll of California hospitals and their clinicians who are leading the way toward safer births and healthier babies and mothers.”

Even low-risk pregnancies can result in complications, and when these occur, C-sections can save lives. However, medical experts say that this procedure is performed too often when not medically indicated. Some of the risks associated with C-sections include bleeding, infection, blood clots and injury to other organs. Experts say that after a woman has had the surgery, she is very likely to have future C-section births, and that brings the risk of additional complications.

For more information about Redlands Community Hospital, visit:

www.redlandshospital.org or call (909) 335-5500.

Redlands Community Hospital is an independent not-for-profit, stand-alone hospital.

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