



## **MEDIA CONTACT**

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### **Redlands Community Hospital Earns Blue Distinction® Center+ Designation for Quality and Cost-Efficiency in Knee and Hip Replacement Surgeries by Anthem Blue Cross**

**REDLANDS, CA** – October 20, 2021 – Anthem Blue Cross in California has selected Redlands Community Hospital as a Blue Distinction Center+ for Knee and Hip Replacement, part of the Blue Distinction Specialty Care program. Blue Distinction Centers are nationally designated healthcare facilities that show a commitment to delivering high-quality patient safety and better health outcomes, based on objective measures that were developed with input from the medical community and leading accreditation and quality organizations.

Facilities designated as Blue Distinction Centers® for Knee and Hip Replacement demonstrate expertise in total knee and total hip replacement surgeries, resulting in fewer patient complications and hospital readmissions. Designated facilities include hospitals (with and without an onsite Intensive Care Unit) and Ambulatory Surgery Centers (ASC). All designated facilities must maintain national accreditation, and ASCs are also required to have an advanced orthopedic certification. In addition to meeting these quality thresholds, hospitals designated as Blue Distinction Centers+ are on average 20 percent more cost-efficient in an episode of care compared to other facilities.

Knee and hip replacement procedures remain some of the most commonly performed, elective surgical procedures in the U.S., [according to a 2018 study released by the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons](#). In 2014 there were 370,770 total hip replacements and 680,150 total knee replacements<sup>1</sup>.

Redlands Community Hospital is proud to be recognized by Anthem Blue Cross for meeting the robust selection criteria for knee and hip replacements set by the Blue Distinction Specialty Care program.

Quality is key: only those facilities that first meet nationally established, objective quality measures will be considered for designation as a Blue Distinction Center+.

“This designation is a testament to our orthopedic team providing exceptional patient-centered care,” said Redlands Community Hospital President and CEO James Holmes. “Redlands Community Hospital is a trusted destination to help our community members regain their mobility with high quality knee and hip replacement surgeries that deliver consistent successful outcomes.”

“The Blue Distinction program is another example of Anthem Blue Cross’s commitment to ensuring our members have access to high-quality specialty care delivered safely and effectively through our in-network providers,” said John Yao, Chief Medical Officer at Anthem Blue Cross of California. “We congratulate Redlands Community Hospital and its staff on this distinction and are honored to recognize their work.”

The Blue Distinction Specialty Care program has helped patients find quality care in the areas of bariatric surgery, cancer care, cardiac care, cellular immunotherapy, fertility care, gene therapy, knee and hip replacements, maternity care, spine surgery, substance use treatment and recovery and transplants. Research for many of these programs show that, compared to other providers, those designated as Blue Distinction Centers demonstrate better quality and improved outcomes for patients.

For more information about the program and for a complete listing of designated facilities, visit [www.bcbs.com/bluedistinction](http://www.bcbs.com/bluedistinction).

[1 American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, Changing Demographics in Primary and Revision Total Joint Arthroplasty, 2000-2014 Matthew Sloan, Neil P Sheth, March 06, 2018.](#)

#### **About Redlands Community Hospital**

*Redlands Community Hospital is a 229-bed, independent not-for-profit, stand-alone facility located in Southern California.*

**About Anthem Blue Cross**

*Anthem Blue Cross has been serving the health insurance needs of California residents since 1937. Anthem Blue Cross, together with its branded affiliates, provides coverage to more than 8.2 million health plan members in California, including a broad network of more than 65,000 providers. Anthem Blue Cross is the trade name of Blue Cross of California. Anthem Blue Cross and Anthem Blue Cross Life and Health Insurance Company are independent licensees of the Blue Cross Association. To learn more, visit our website [www.anthem.com/ca](http://www.anthem.com/ca) or social media channels on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).*

**About Blue Cross Blue Shield Association**

*The Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association is a national federation of 36 independent, community-based and locally operated Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies that collectively provide health care coverage for one in three Americans. BCBSA provides health care insights through [The Health of America Report](#) series and the national [BCBS Health Index<sup>SM</sup>](#). For more information on BCBSA and its member companies, please visit [BCBS.com](http://BCBS.com). We also encourage you to connect with us on [Facebook](#), check out our videos on [YouTube](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).*

**About Blue Distinction Centers**

*Blue Distinction Centers (BDC) met overall quality measures for patient safety and outcomes, developed with input from the medical community. A Local Blue Plan may require additional criteria for facilities located in its own service area; for details, contact your Local Blue Plan. Blue Distinction Centers+ (BDC+) also met cost measures that address consumers' need for affordable health care. Each facility's cost of care is evaluated using data from its Local Blue Plan. Facilities in CA, ID, NY, PA, and WA may lie in two Local Blue Plans' areas, resulting in two evaluations for cost of care; and their own Local Blue Plans decide whether one or both cost of care evaluation(s) must meet BDC+ national criteria. National criteria for BDC and BDC+ are displayed on [bcbs.com](http://bcbs.com). Individual outcomes may vary. For details on a provider's in-network status or your own policy's coverage, contact your Local Blue Plan and ask your provider before making an appointment. Neither Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association nor any Blue Plans are responsible for non-covered charges or other losses or damages resulting from Blue Distinction or other provider finder information or care received from Blue Distinction or other providers.*

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