

Spring 2016



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Jay County Hospital Receives 5-Star Rating



[Jay County Hospital](#) (JCH) recently received a **5-Star Rating** from the Medicare Beneficiary Quality Improvement Project (the patient satisfaction data collected every single month that is submitted to Medicare). JCH exceeded the State and National average in each of the five categories that Medicare looks at when determining ratings. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) publishes HCAHPS Star Ratings to the Hospital Compare website (www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov). Hospital Compare is a consumer-oriented website that provides information on how well hospitals provide recommended care to their patients.

The Hospital Compare star ratings relate to patients' experience of care at almost 3,500 Medicare-certified acute care hospitals. The ratings are based on data from the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems Survey (HCAHPS) measures that are included in Hospital Compare. HCAHPS has been in use since 2006 to measure patients' perspectives of hospital care, and includes topics like:

- How well nurses and doctors communicated with patients
- How responsive hospital staff were to patient needs
- How clean and quiet hospital environments were
- How well patients were prepared for post-hospital settings (cms.gov)

3538 hospitals in the US received a star rating
6% of hospitals in the US received a 5-Star Rating
9 Hospitals in Indiana received a 5-Star Rating
Only 1 Critical Access Hospital in Indiana received a 5-Star Rating:

5 OUT OF 5 STARS
HIGHEST QUALITY RATING
FROM MEDICARE

JayCounty HOSPITAL
Quality care by those who care

Oral Cancer Awareness Month

- Within 5 years of quitting smoking, your risk of mouth, throat and esophagus cancer is cut in half.
- Many smokeless tobacco products contain cancer-causing chemicals. Smokeless tobacco causes cancer of the mouth and esophagus. [Source](#)
- Smoking interferes with cancer treatment. Cancer patients and cancer survivors who smoke are at greater risk for their cancer to recur, and to die from other causes. (SGR50)
- [Tips information](#) on smoking and cancer
- [Tips materials](#) for dental health providers



Community Hospital of Bremen Receives Women's Choice Award



[Community Hospital of Bremen](#) has been recognized as a 2016 America's 100 Best Hospitals for Patient Experience by the Women's Choice Award. The recognition is based on the hospital's *Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS)* patient survey reports, weighed according to the preference of female consumers. The scoring process is unique in that it is the only national list that focuses on female patient satisfaction.

This award reflects the hospital's commitment to delivering an exceptional patient experience for women and their families. This is the 6th year for Women's Choice Awards, and all hospitals receiving awards will be recognized in a full page announcement in USA TODAY.



Sweet Dreams Baby Bundles

[Greene County General Hospital](#) will welcome the first baby born under its *Sweet Dreams Baby Bundles* program this month.



Sweet Dreams Baby Bundles are designed to help combat Indiana's high infant mortality rate through safe sleep, prenatal care, breast-feeding, and smoking cessation for mothers. Inspired by a similar program in Finland, Greene County General Hospital launched the program late last year, and the first expectant mother will deliver in the next few weeks. Like all the mothers in the program, she has completed a full continuum of care and will deliver at the hospital. After the baby is born, she will come in for follow up appointments and work with lactation specialists to help with breastfeeding. In return, she will receive a sturdy cardboard box with waterproof mattress, full of all the essentials for baby's first few months. The box doubles as a safe sleep bassinet and can be used as a keepsake.



OB Nurse Manager, Teresa Hutton, and Chief Nursing Officer, Lea Ann Camp, show off a Baby Bundle in a delivery room.

This program has been designated as an Indiana Bicentennial Commission Legacy Project, and members of the Commission have requested to be present for the first baby bundle presentation. Commission Co-Chair, Becky Skillman, visited the hospital to talk to staff and see the Baby Bundles first hand.

"I was very impressed with the *Sweet Dreams Baby Bundles* program," said Skillman. "When I visited Greene County General, the staff brought me up to the hospital's renovated OB wing, where I was able to see and touch the boxes. They are filled with every good thing new parents need – right down to the box itself. This is exactly the kind of project the Commission wants to support."

Legacy Projects are designed to highlight the best of the state, its 200 years of history, and the hope for continued progress. They must also be publically accessible with clearly achievable goals. The *Sweet Dreams Baby Bundles* met those requirements, and the program and the Hospital are now listed on the Commission's official website, Indiana2016.org. Greene County General Hospital will also be able to use the Commission's seal as it pursues future grant opportunities.

Update: Guidance and Resources for Zika Virus Infection



As of April 13, 2016, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has reported 358 travel-associated Zika virus cases and no locally acquired vector-borne cases in the US. Of these cases, 31 were identified in pregnant women, 7 were sexually transmitted, and 1 case was associated with Guillain-Barre syndrome. Six travel-associated Zika virus cases have been reported in Indiana, with no locally acquired vector-borne cases. The ISDH is collaborating with partners to finalize a Zika action plan regarding vector control, surveillance, and communications. Starting today, the ISDH will issue weekly updates regarding the Zika virus outbreak and updated CDC guidance. In addition, more information on Zika virus can be found at <http://in.gov/isdh/26910.htm> and www.cdc.gov/zika.

- Zika virus testing may be considered for the following patients:
 - Travelers to an area with Zika transmission who have one or more of the FRAC (fever, rash, arthralgia, conjunctivitis) symptoms
 - Pregnant women who have traveled to an area with Zika transmission, regardless of symptoms
 - Pregnant women who have had unprotected sex with a man who has traveled to an area with Zika transmission and is symptomatic
- Updated guidance for health care providers caring for women of reproductive age may be found at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6512e2.htm?s_cid=mm6512e2_w.
- Updated recommendations for prevention of sexual transmission of Zika virus may be found at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6512e3.htm?s_cid=mm6512e3_w.
 - Women with Zika virus disease should wait at least 8 weeks after symptom onset before attempting conception.
 - Men with Zika virus disease should wait at least 6 months after symptom onset before attempting conception.
 - Asymptomatic women and men with possible Zika virus exposure should wait at least 8 weeks after the last date of exposure before attempting conception.
- Guidance for preventing transmission of Zika virus in labor and delivery settings may be found at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6511e3.htm?s_cid=mm6511e3_w.
- US Zika Pregnancy Registry
 - To understand more about Zika virus infection, the CDC established the US Zika Pregnancy Registry to collect information about Zika virus infection during pregnancy and congenital Zika virus infection.
 - People who are eligible for inclusion in the Registry include pregnant women in the U.S. with laboratory evidence of Zika virus infection (positive or inconclusive test results), infants born to these women and infants with laboratory evidence of congenital Zika virus infection and their mothers.
 - The ISDH will be collaborating with local health departments to collect Registry information and will be responsible for submitting data to the CDC.
- CDC Zika Male Study
 - The CDC is conducting a study to understand how often, and for how long, Zika virus is found in the semen and urine of infected men.
 - Men who are 18 years and older and have been diagnosed with Zika virus disease may be eligible for this study.
 - Local health departments with residents who are eligible for this study will be contacted with further information on study enrollment.
- According to the CDC, there is now sufficient evidence to conclude that there is a causal relationship between Zika virus infection in pregnant women and microcephaly in infants.
 - The full article describing the available evidence may be found at http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMSr1604338?query=featured_home.

For more information, or for Zika virus testing authorization, please contact Taryn Stevens, Infectious Disease Epidemiologist, at tastevens@isdh.in.gov or 317-234-9727.

First Live Virtual Reality Transcontinental Hernia Surgery at PCH



On Tuesday April 12, 2016 a rural Indiana surgical team at [Putnam County Hospital](#) performed the world's first live virtual reality (VR) transcontinental hernia surgery with Dr. Hugh McGregor, located in Brisbane Australia, as the virtual assistant. Dr. Paul Szotek, who did the first surgery in Indiana using Google Glass technology in February 2014, broadcast the hernia surgery live using a special 360-degree camera that allows viewers to experience the surgery in an immersive virtual 3D environment. "The beauty of this is that the cost is minimal, only requiring a smart phone and a viewing device, like Google Cardboard, that is often under \$20" stated Dr. Szotek.

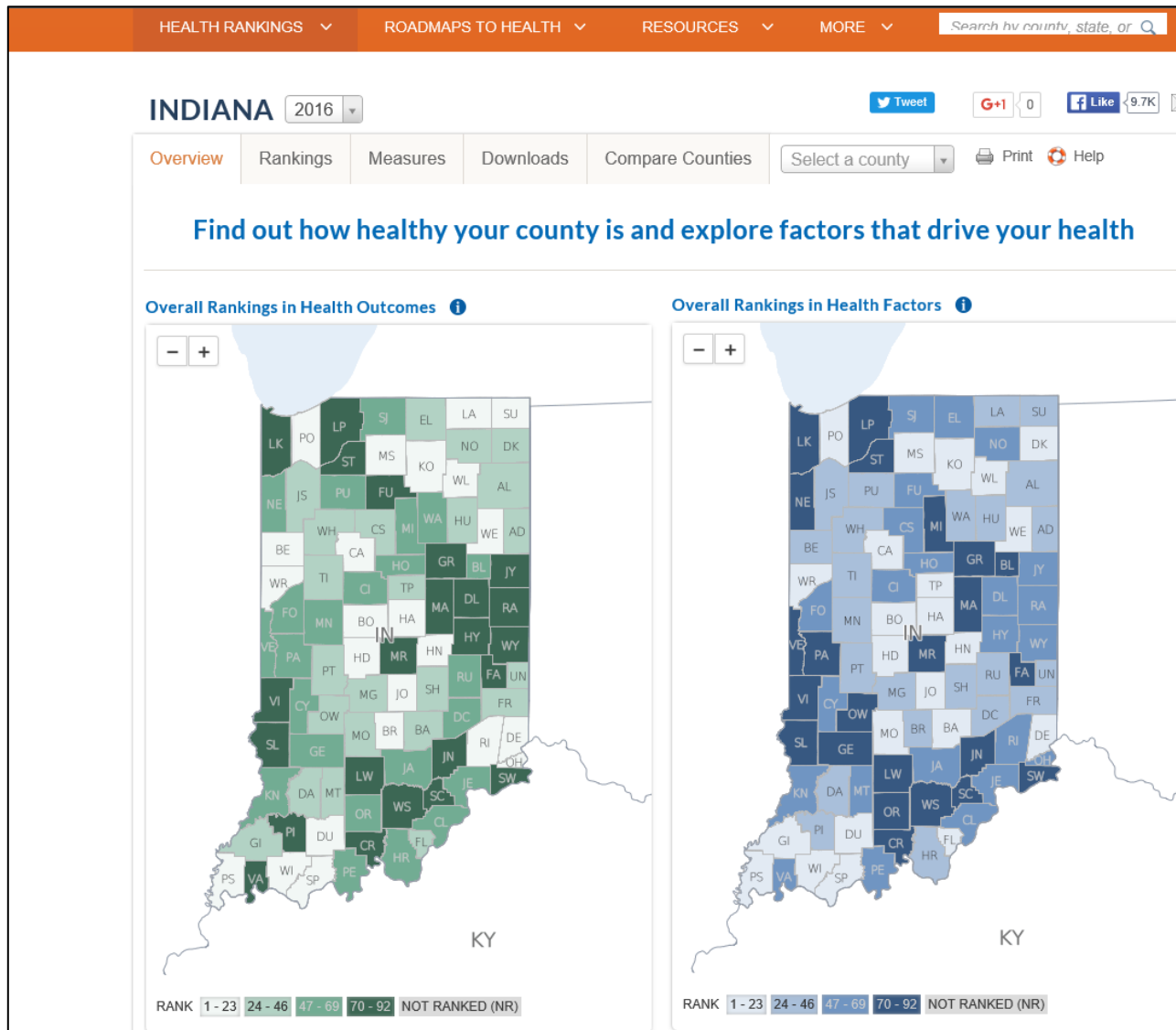
Simultaneously, the surgical team broadcast the hernia surgery live using Google Glass and the ExpertEye telementoring platform from AMA XPERTEYE Inc. (www.ama.bzh), a French based technology company. Using the combined Google Glass and VR technology, Dr. McGregor was virtually transported 8,947 miles from Brisbane, Australia to the operating room in Greencastle, IN as the virtual assistant. Dr. McGregor viewed the case on his VR headset, participated in the discussion of the case, and telestrated images that were sent to Dr. Szotek on a computer monitor in the OR. "This type of technology will open the door for isolated remote surgeons to invite experts into their operating rooms and provide specialist opinions and mentoring that might not otherwise be afforded in such locations", Dr. Szotek said. In addition, Dr. Szotek feels that the future of surgical training at all levels will be influenced by virtual reality, augmented reality, and telementoring. The utilization of these emerging wearable technologies may allow surgeons to experience and perfect new techniques from a global mentor pool prior to entering the operating room and hopefully enhance patient outcomes in the future through improved preparedness.

There's not just corn in Indiana and thanks to the expertise of the surgical team from Putnam County Hospital in Greencastle, the future of remote care throughout the world is one step closer to the future.

Dr. Paul P. Szotek recently joined the expanding surgery team at Putnam Surgical Specialties, located inside Putnam County Hospital in Greencastle, IN. Dr. Szotek joins Dr. Robin Mendelsohn, Dr. L.G. Palanca and Dr. Frank Lloyd in offering the best in surgical care, close to home. For more information, please call Putnam Surgical Specialties at 765.658.2710.

2016 County Health Rankings Key Findings Report

Find Out How Healthy Your County Is and Explore Factors That Drive Your Health



The **County Health Rankings & Roadmaps** program helps communities identify and implement solutions that make it easier for people to be healthy in their neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces. Ranking the health of nearly every county in the nation, the *County Health Rankings* illustrate [what we know](#) when it comes to what is keeping people healthy or making people sick. The *Roadmaps* show [what we can do](#) to create healthier places to live, learn, work, and play. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation collaborates with the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute to bring this program to communities across the nation.

Now in its seventh year, the **County Health Rankings** continue to bring revealing data to US counties. This report offers key findings from this year's *Rankings* release and includes answers to the following questions:

- How Does Health Vary Across Rural and Urban Counties?
- How Do Health Gaps Among Counties Differ by State?
- What Are the New Measures of Each County's Health?

Take a look at Indiana and your county's health rankings at:

<http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/indiana/2016/overview>