



**Embargoed until 6 a.m. ET July 5, 2012**

STATEMENT ON CONSUMER REPORTS HOSPITAL RATINGS

Leah Binder, President & CEO

The Leapfrog Group and Hospital Safety Score

July 5, 2012

The Leapfrog Group thanks Consumer Reports for rating the safety of more than 1100 hospitals in the United States and urge people to consider these ratings when selecting a hospital. We agree with Consumer Reports that there is too little information about the safety and quality of hospitals available to the public. We will continue to work closely with Consumer Reports to address the injuries, accidents, and infections that should never happen in American hospitals, and to advance transparency of health information. Information The Leapfrog Group collects through our voluntary, annual hospital survey is included in the new Consumer Reports ratings.

Another resource for consumers to consider alongside the Consumer Reports ratings is The Leapfrog Group's Hospital Safety Score: [www.HospitalSafetyScore.org](http://www.HospitalSafetyScore.org). The Hospital Safety Score is an A, B, C, D, or F letter grade assigned to more than 2600 general hospitals in the United States, and is based on how well hospitals protect patients from injuries, accidents, and errors. The Hospital Safety Score considers 26 measures of safety, some of which are the same as those incorporated into the Consumer Reports ratings, and some of which are different. We believe the two ratings complement each other and enrich the quality of information available to people making life and death decisions about their health care. In addition, there are other sources of quality and safety information consumers may consult. A list of resources is available at [www.HospitalSafetyScore.org](http://www.HospitalSafetyScore.org).

For more information or to connect with someone from The Leapfrog Group for an interview, please contact:

Hillary Blum

[Hillary@sternassociates.com](mailto:Hillary@sternassociates.com)

908-276-4344, ext. 227

###