Hospital Sees Success With NSQIP

Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas recognized for exemplary surgical patient care as a participant in the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program

Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas has been recognized as one of 25 hospitals in the nation achieving exemplary outcomes for surgical patient care, a recent article reports. The American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP) recognized 25 participating hospitals for achieving exemplary outcomes related to at least two out of five clinical areas:

- DVT (deep vein thrombosis, thrombophlebitis and pulmonary embolism).
- Cardiac incidents (cardiac arrest and myocardial infarction).
- Pneumonia.
- Surgical site infections.
- Urinary tract infections.

"We are dedicated to quality improvement to enhance the care of our surgical patients, and participating in national programs such as the National Surgical Quality Improvement Program advances our commitment to evidence-based care," says Ronald C. Jones, M.D., chief of surgery, Baylor Dallas. "Because we handle more than 26,000 surgical cases a year, it's a commitment that significantly impacts thousands of people."

By participating in NSQIP, Baylor Dallas is required to track the outcomes of inpatient and outpatient surgical procedures, and collect data that directs patient safety and the quality of surgical care improvements.

"Quality can be measured, and we are proud that our staff has been recognized for providing model surgical care," says Irving Prengler, M.D., vice president of medical affairs.

The ACS NSQIP recognition is one of several recent quality awards for the hospital. In August, Baylor Dallas received the Texas Health Care Quality Improvement Achievement Award from TMF® Health Quality Institute, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Texas. The award honors Texas hospitals that are performing quality initiatives aimed at improving outcomes in patient care by recognizing those hospitals that have improved their performance on specific national quality measures.

The ACS NSQIP is the a nationally validated quality improvement program that measures and enhances the care of surgical patients. Its goal is to reduce surgical morbidity (infection or illness related to a surgical procedure) while providing a firm

foundation for surgeons to apply what is known as the "best scientific evidence" to the practice of surgery.

The ACS NSQIP is a major program of the American College of Surgeons and is currently used in more than 250 hospitals. The American College of Surgeons is a scientific and educational organization of surgeons that was founded in 1913 to raise the standards of surgical practice and to improve the care of the surgical patient. The College is dedicated to the ethical and competent practice of surgery.

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