

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Serena Josel (310) 386-5309 cell (424) 251-7677 office

## The Leapfrog Group Issues Top Grade to Kaiser Permanente South Bay Medical Center for Patient Safety

**HARBOR CITY, CA, December 14, 2020** – Kaiser Permanente South Bay Medical Center has received the prestigious "A" top grade for excellence in patient safety from <u>The Leapfrog Group</u>, which today released ratings as part of its fall 2020 Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade report.

This report is a biannual scorecard of more than 2,600 U.S. hospitals. Nationwide less than one-third of hospitals received an A rating.

"This recognition is thanks to the hard work of our staff and physicians, who continue to provide high-quality, compassionate and safe care, even in the midst of the current COVID surge," said Margie Harrier, RN, senior vice president and area manager for the Kaiser Permanente South Bay Medical Center in Harbor City. "I'm proud of the way that our team continues to deliver patient-centered care to the more than 260,000 Kaiser Permanente members across the South Bay who rely on us to keep them healthy."

Dr. Barbara Carnes, area medical director, echoed similar sentiments.

"The past nine months have been challenging for all of us and having a common purpose—saving lives—has been critical to seeing us through the COVID-19 pandemic," said Dr. Carnes. "This honor belongs to all of the physicians, staff and volunteers who put our patients first every day."

Overall, 10 Kaiser Permanente hospitals received Leapfrog's "A" rating in Southern California. They are: <u>Anaheim, Downey, Fontana, Irvine, Moreno Valley, Ontario, Riverside, San Diego, San Diego Zion and South Bay</u>.

Developed under the guidance of Leapfrog's Blue Ribbon Expert Panel, the <u>Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade</u> uses 28 national performance measures to produce a single letter grade representing a hospital's overall performance in keeping patients safe from preventable harm and medical errors.

The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade methodology has been peer reviewed and published in the Journal of Patient Safety.

## **About The Leapfrog Group**

Founded in 2000 by large employers and other purchasers, The Leapfrog Group is a national nonprofit organization driving a movement for giant leaps forward in the quality and safety of American health care. The flagship Leapfrog Hospital Survey and new Leapfrog Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) Survey collect and transparently report hospital and ASC performance, empowering purchasers to find the highest-value care and giving consumers the lifesaving information they need to make informed decisions. The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, Leapfrog's other main initiative, assigns letter grades to hospitals based on their record of patient safety, helping consumers protect themselves and their families from errors, injuries, accidents and infections.

## **About Kaiser Permanente**

Kaiser Permanente is committed to helping shape the future of health care. We are recognized as one of America's leading health care providers and not-for-profit health plans. Founded in 1945, Kaiser Permanente has a mission to provide high-quality, affordable health care services and to improve the health of our members and the communities we serve. We currently serve 12.3 million members in eight states and the District of Columbia. Care for members and patients is focused on their total health and guided by their personal Permanente Medical Group physicians, specialists and team of caregivers. Our expert and caring medical teams are empowered and

supported by industry-leading technology advances and tools for health promotion, disease prevention, state-of-the-art care delivery and world-class chronic disease management. Kaiser Permanente is dedicated to care innovations, clinical research, health education and the support of community health.

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