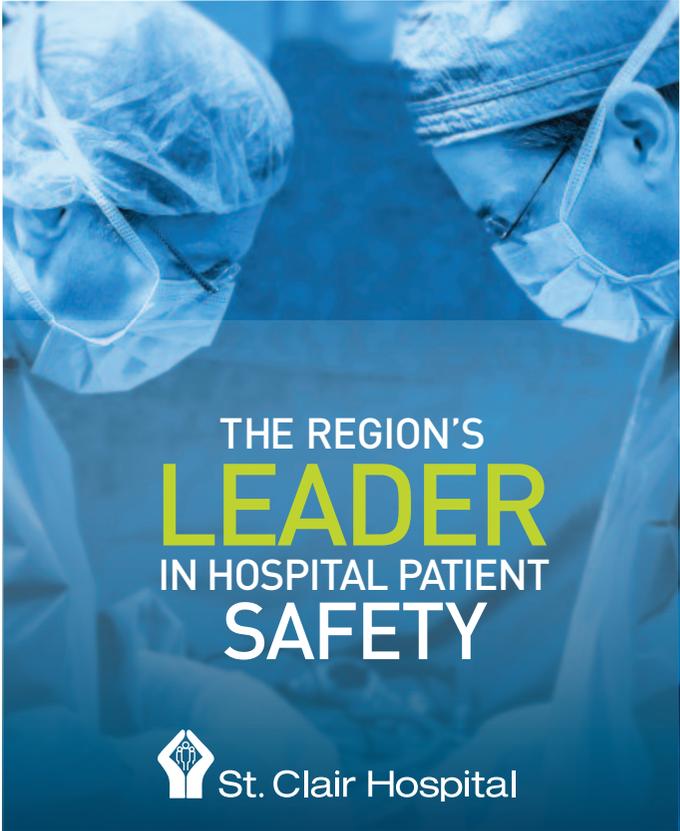


# Patient safety is key when choosing a hospital



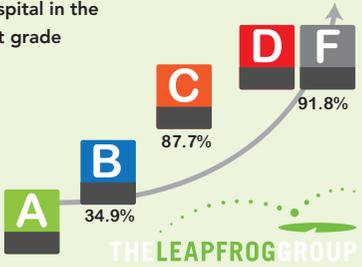
THE REGION'S  
**LEADER**  
IN HOSPITAL PATIENT  
SAFETY



### **"A" rated hospitals evidence a lower risk of avoidable death.**

St. Clair recently received an **"A"** hospital safety grade, making it the only hospital in the region to achieve the highest grade for seven years running.

According to a new study, patients at hospitals rated lower than "A" have higher risk of avoidable death.



*“Every day we make choices about where we shop, who we bank with, what cars we drive, and on and on. Yet despite our consumer culture, some people aren’t even aware they can choose what hospital they go to.*

*Your choice of hospital could be a life or death decision. Hospitals vary greatly on things like infection rates, surgical errors, and patient injuries — not to mention ER wait times, patient satisfaction, and other things.”*

REPRINTED FROM THE LEAPFROG GROUP:  
“CHOOSING THE BEST HOSPITAL”

In May, The Leapfrog Group, an independent, national, not-for-profit, patient safety watchdog, awarded St. Clair an “A” hospital safety grade for the 14th consecutive period. That makes St. Clair one of only 56 hospitals in the country (i.e., the top 2%), and the only hospital in the region, to receive an “A” hospital safety grade for more than seven years running.

Hospital safety grades score every hospital in the nation on how well they keep patients safe, assigning letter grades of A to F, with A being the highest rating. The scores are calculated using 28 safety performance measures.



In a recent study by Johns Hopkins University’s Armstrong Institute for Patient Safety and Quality, researchers determined that, on average, when compared to “A” hospitals:

- Patients at “D” and “F” hospitals face a **92%** greater risk of avoidable death
- Patients at “C” hospitals face an **88%** greater risk of avoidable death
- Patients at “B” hospitals face a **35%** greater risk of avoidable death

According to the same study, if all hospitals with grades of “B” through “F” had the same safety performance as hospitals graded “A”, more than 50,000 lives would be saved annually.

For more about patient safety, or to see the hospital safety grades of all hospitals in the region, go to [www.hospitalsafetygrade.org](http://www.hospitalsafetygrade.org).