

2025 Wisconsin Hospitals Quality Snapshot



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This snapshot showcases important metrics and achievements that reflect the commitment by Wisconsin hospitals and providers to deliver high quality health care. Additionally, the snapshot offers an overview of how Wisconsin compares nationally and where it excels in promoting health and safety across the state's health care facilities.



Wisconsin Hospitals Lead the Nation in Quality Care



Top-performing state for overall health system performance rankings for women and health care quality and prevention according to the Commonwealth Fund¹

RANKS
1ST

High discharge information scores by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS)²
- >89% for the past 4 years

RANKS
2ND

For overall performance, access and affordability, prevention and treatment, avoidable hospital use and cost, and healthy lives (*Great Lakes Region*) by the Commonwealth Fund³

RANKS
5TH

Nationally for total dollars earned through CMS' Value-Based Purchasing (VBP) program⁴
- 80% of WI hospitals received incentive payments (compared to 49% nationally)

RANKS
6TH

Percentage of hospitals earning four- or five-stars according to CMS Star Ratings⁵
- 65% of WI hospitals received four- or five-star ratings vs. 36% nationally
- Highest percentage among states with 50+ hospitals

Footnotes

1 - [2024 State Scorecard on Women's Health and Reproductive Care](#), Commonwealth Fund

2 - CMS' HCAHPS

3 - [2025 Scorecard on State Health System Performance scorecard](#), Commonwealth Fund

4 - CMS' VBP program

5 - [Overall Hospital Quality Star Ratings](#), CMS



Wisconsin Hospitals are Committed to Continuous Quality Improvement

through education and collaboration

CheckPoint

CheckPoint delivers reliable reports designed to support health care decisions and assist Wisconsin hospitals with quality improvement. Below are the categories of the measures collected.

CHECK POINT | Wisconsin Hospitals' Quality and Safety Information

INFECTIONS

— Central Line Associated Blood Stream Infections calculated Standardized Infection Ratio (SIR) reduced by 23%

PATIENT SAFETY

— Postoperative Respiratory Failure reduced by 34%
— Pressure Ulcers reduced by 60%

READMISSIONS

MORTALITY PROCEDURES

MORTALITY CONDITIONS

— Hip Fracture reduced by 42%

PATIENT EXPERIENCE

Scan the QR code to the right or visit checkpoint.wha.org



CheckPoint has **46** measures!

Opioid and Substance Misuse

The Rural Health and Substance Use Clinical Support (RHeSUS) program aims to improve access to treatment in rural Wisconsin by expanding education and support for health care professionals treating those who struggle with opioid and other substance use disorders.

Healthcare Quality Showcase

The Healthcare Quality Poster Showcase is held annually in the Capitol Rotunda, featuring hospitals' quality and patient safety improvement efforts.



Quality Residency

Taught by field experts, this program equips new quality leaders with the essential skills to succeed and provides experienced leaders with timely insights into the evolving landscape of health care quality and patient safety.



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Stroke

WHA collaborates with the Department of Health Services (DHS) and the Wisconsin Coverdell Stroke Program to advance equity and quality in stroke prevention and care, particularly for high-risk individuals.

Superior Health Quality Alliance

WHA participates in this collaborative of health care quality improvement organizations working to improve health and health care quality for Medicare beneficiaries across the Great Lakes and Northeast regions of the United States.



Wisconsin Office of Rural Health

Finance Workshop - Workshop to provide insight into the current health care finance climate.

Swing Bed Program - Assists critical access hospitals (CAH) in initiating or expanding their Swing Bed programs.

The MOVIN™ Program - Aims to reduce fall risk of CAH inpatients by training staff to safely increase movement during inpatient stays.

Cybersecurity Needs Assessment – WHA works with Microsoft to provide a cybersecurity assessment.

Wisconsin Dental Pain Protocol

Emergency departments are teaming up with local dentists to better treat non-traumatic dental pain—helping patients get the care they need while reducing the use of opioids.

Wisconsin Caring for Caregivers Wellbeing

The Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment awarded a grant to WHA for leading an initiative that improves the well-being of health care and public health workers in partnership with the Dr. Lorna Breen Heroes Foundation.



For more information on these or other initiatives, scan the QR code!



WHA Excellence in Healthcare Quality & Patient Safety Awards Program

Wisconsin
Hospitals
Celebrate Their
Strengths
in Quality
Improvement
Stories

The *Excellence in Healthcare Quality & Patient Safety Program* recognizes hospitals that advance health care through quality improvements and patient safety outcomes. Below are the 2025 award recipients.

HealthPartners Collaboration **Amery Hospital & Clinic, Hudson Hospital & Clinic and** **Westfields Hospital & Clinic** **Swing Bed Optimization**

- Increased placement of internal swing bed referrals by 77%
- Increased swing bed census days by 30%
- Increased revenue by \$2.2M



Aspirus Stevens Point Hospital **Improving Mortality Index**



- Developed a program to reduce mortality and improve organizational Mortality Index.
- Exceeded goal of reaching the 50th percentile for Vizient community hospitals
- Achieved success through sustainable interventions

Aurora Medical Center **Age-Friendly 4Ms Implementation – Improving Care and** **Patient Experience for Older Adults**

- Enhanced the Age-Friendly 4Ms program by involving all disciplines
- Improved patient experience
- Reduced hospital-acquired conditions
- Increased discharges to home



UW Health Rehabilitation Hospital **Neurological Physical Therapy Program**



- Designed a residency program in Neurological Physical Therapy
- Trains specialists and leaders
- Promotes continuous improvement and strategic growth
- Accredited by the American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education (ABPTRFE)



Scan the QR code
for more quality
improvement
stories!