

PRESS RELEASE

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MAIMONIDES MEDICAL CENTER EARNS FIVE STAR RATING FOR MATERNITY CARE

Highest Rating Places Maimonides Among the Best Hospitals in the Nation

(July 2006; Brooklyn, NY) - Maimonides Medical Center recently announced that it has been ranked among the best hospitals in the nation for maternity care by HealthGrades, the nation's leading source for independent healthcare quality information. Maimonides has been recognized with a HealthGrades five-star rating for Clinical Excellence in Maternity Care.

Staff members of the Maimonides Birthing Center were not surprised by news of the latest honors. The word has been out for several years that Maimonides provides the finest care available in maternity services. In fact, more babies were delivered at Maimonides Medical Center in 2005 than at any other hospital in New York State.

The Maimonides Birthing Center features private suites with hardwood floors and a homelike environment. At the same time, physician coverage is provided 24/7 in our advanced Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. According to Dr. Howard Minkoff, Chairman of Obstetrics & Gynecology, "Our 36 obstetricians and 26 midwives have found that most families appreciate having the best of both worlds available to them."

Maimonides provides other unique services to its maternity patients. The largest doula program in the metropolitan area can be found at Maimonides. These fully-trained childbirth assistants are available to patients before, during and after delivery at no cost to families. And the maternity units utilize an electronic patient record that sets industry standards for patient safety and hospital efficiency.

"This combination of family-centered services and advanced technology continues to have enormous appeal to the women we serve - over 6,700 of them last year alone," said Dr. Minkoff. "Our highly trained staff includes the finest nurses, physicians, midwives and specialists to ensure the safety and comfort of our patients."

HealthGrades researches quality measures for maternity care in over 1,400 hospitals across 17 states. Hospitals were assessed based on their clinical performance over the span of three years from 2002-2004. Criteria used in the rankings include: complication rates, volume, neonatal mortality, and complication rates for elective cesarean sections. A five-star rating places Maimonides among the top 15% of all hospitals within 17 states.

"Each year, HealthGrades assesses hospital quality and publishes every hospital's ratings online," explained Samantha Collier, HealthGrades' vice president of medical affairs. "Women in the New York should be aware of the information available regarding healthcare quality and the outstanding recognition received by Maimonides Medical Center's maternity care."

The complete maternity care ratings are published, free of charge, on the HealthGrades Web site, www.healthgrades.com.

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