



Salina Regional
Health Center

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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SRHC ranked No. 1 in state, 15th in the nation for hospital readmission rate

(September 30, 2024) – A recent report by Becker’s Hospital Review, citing information released from the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services’ Unplanned Hospital Visits data, shows Salina Regional Health Center is rated best in Kansas with a hospital readmission rate of 12.6%. The report also shows Salina Regional to be ranked 15th in the nation among U.S. hospitals.

CMS’ most recent Unplanned Hospital Visits report collected provider data for hospital return days, unplanned readmissions and measures of unplanned hospital visits after outpatient procedures from July 2022 to June 2023. The national hospital-wide readmission rate was found to be 14.6%, with 116 hospitals across the country having readmission rates below the national average.

“Several years ago, CMS realized there was a lot of expenditure related to readmission rates,” said Robert Freelove, Senior Vice President/Chief Medical Officer at Salina Regional Health Center. “So, they challenged hospitals to reduce rates.

“It’s not just about the care you provide patients while they’re in the hospital,” Freelove said. “It’s also about the transition of care when patients go home after the hospital, and making sure they’re set up so they remain on the path to wellness.”

In recent years Salina Regional has implemented a number of programs aimed at improving readmission rates. Transitional Care and Chronic Care programs were created within the organization to make home visits and provide follow-up services to patients who are identified using specific analytics that create a predictive measure of a patient’s likelihood to manage their care following discharge.

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A Meds-to-Beds program was implemented to offer patients the ability to have their prescriptions filled from the hospital pharmacy and delivered to the patient's bedside before discharge. Other initiatives include working with primary care providers and outpatient services to ensure follow-up care is scheduled properly.

"The improvements we've seen in recent years for readmission rates and many other quality, safety and patient experience indicators has been part of a monumental effort that has really touched almost every single department, both within the hospital, and in our clinics and outpatient settings," Freelove said. "These rankings for readmissions show that our work is paying off."

See the Becker's Hospital Review report at <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/rankings-and-ratings/116-hospitals-with-the-best-readmission-rates.html>

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