



Dear friends,

Throughout all the recent changes in the health care landscape, one thing has always remained constant: EvergreenHealth's commitment to our patients and community. That's why I'm so pleased to reach out to you today, with some great news that affirms how important your care is to our entire team.

As it does each year, Healthgrades—the nation's leading independent provider of information to help consumers make informed decisions about physicians and hospitals—has evaluated EvergreenHealth's clinical quality and safety across a range of our specialties.

We're honored to announce that Healthgrades' 2014 rankings were recently released, and EvergreenHealth has earned *several recognitions* that put us among the best hospitals in the nation. Among these is EvergreenHealth's distinction as one of “America's 100 Best Hospitals” in two specialty areas— Pulmonary Care and Gastrointestinal Care.

This places EvergreenHealth among the **top 5 percent of hospitals** in the nation for clinical excellence in each of these specialties.

In addition, Healthgrades has named us among the **top 10 percent** of hospitals for Treatment of Stroke for the fifth consecutive year, and among the **top 15 percent** of hospitals for our Treatment of Pneumonia and Heart Failure and for Gastrointestinal Care such as treatment of

GI Bleed and Pancreatitis and for both Colorectal Surgery and Appendectomy procedures.

Our strategic partner Virginia Mason Medical Center was also recognized for quality care by Healthgrades, earning the “America's 100 Best Hospitals” designation for Cardiac Care, Pulmonary Care, Gastrointestinal Care, Critical Care and General Surgery, in addition to ranking in the top 10 percent of hospitals for Treatment of Stroke.

What motivates us as health care professionals is not awards, but our dedication to helping our community live at its healthiest best. Still, we're so thankful to be recognized by Healthgrades, and these acknowledgments just underscore EvergreenHealth's goal to provide our patients with the best care and service possible.

Thank you for letting us share this news with you, and for your continued support and trust.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Malte
EvergreenHealth CEO