

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL NAMED A BLUE DISTINCTION CENTER
FOR CARDIAC CARE**

*Hospital One of 23 in California to Earn Innovative Quality Designation to Help
Consumers Find Medical Facilities*

ORANGE, CA -- When it comes to matters of the heart, Orange County residents can trust the St. Joseph Hospital Heart and Vascular Center. The center has been named a Blue Distinction Center for Cardiac Care by the Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies. As the first hospital in Orange County to provide cardiac care, St. Joseph Hospital continues to lead the community by providing services to both adult and pediatric patients.

Centers receiving a Blue Distinction demonstrate an unwavering commitment to quality care, resulting in better overall outcomes for cardiac patients. To date, Blue Cross and Blue Shield have designated only slightly more than 400 Blue Distinction Centers for Cardiac Care across the country.

“I am proud to recognize the clinical acumen of our physicians, dedicated nurses and support staff, and the entire Heart and Vascular Center for this exceptional effort,” says Kevin Lundon, vice president of operations, St. Joseph Hospital. “Special thanks goes to Renee Mazeroll, RN, Executive Director of the Heart and Vascular Center, and our entire physician leadership team for their tireless pursuit of excellence.”

The St. Joseph Hospital Heart and Vascular Center provides complete and comprehensive care to those suffering with cardiac and or vascular disease. To receive this outstanding distinction, the St. Joseph Hospital Heart and Vascular Center met stringent clinical criteria developed in collaboration with the American College of Cardiology (ACC) and the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS).

The center's services include a broad spectrum of state-of-the-art diagnostic technologies, treatment facilitated by evidence-based medicine, leading edge therapies and highly trained specialists, education by experienced nurses, and support services ranging from risk factor identification and screening to rehabilitation and heart failure clinic support.

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