

**ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL'S CARDIOLOGY PROGRAM RECEIVES NATIONAL
RECOGNITION FOR EXCEPTIONAL CLINICAL PERFORMANCE**

**The Adult Cardiac Surgery Program is One of Only 12 Percent Nationally to be
Awarded Three Stars by The Society of Thoracic Surgeons**

ORANGE, Calif. (June 00, 2008) – The Adult Cardiac Surgery program at St. Joseph Hospital in Orange was recently awarded three stars, the highest quality tier, by The Society of Thoracic Surgeons.

St. Joseph Hospital is the only hospital in Orange County and one of only 12 percent in the nation to receive such recognition. The award is based on data which encompasses outcome and process measures as well as adherence to evidence-based care throughout the patient's hospital stay.

“It is a great honor to receive such a prestigious recognition from The Society of Thoracic Surgeons,” said Larry K. Ainsworth, president and chief executive officer of St. Joseph Hospital. “This award is the result of the great dedication of the entire cardiology team at St. Joseph Hospital to providing the highest quality care to every single patient.”

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