

## U.S. News Names UCH as Best in the Metro Area

In its first-ever ranking of “best” hospitals by major metropolitan area, *U.S. News & World Report* has named University of Colorado Hospital the best in the Denver area.

“Day in and day out what really counts is how well we take care of our patients and our care team,” hospital President and CEO Bruce Schroffel said upon being told of the magazine’s latest rankings on March 28, “but it’s gratifying to get this kind of recognition every once in a while.”

**10 more specialties.** *U.S. News*, using data from its 2010-11 “Best Hospitals” edition, ranked hospitals in 52 U.S. metro areas with populations of one million or more. The first-ever metro-area rankings identify hospitals that performed nearly as well as the nationally ranked Best Hospitals in at least one of 16 adult specialties.

In them, it ranked 10 UCH specialties as “high-performing”: diabetes and endocrinology; ear, nose and throat; gastroenterology; geriatrics; gynecology; neurology and neurosurgery; orthopedics; psychiatry; rehabilitation, and urology.

Last summer, of course, *U.S. News* again cited four UCH specialties – pulmonology (8<sup>th</sup>), kidney disorders (15<sup>th</sup>), rheumatology (19<sup>th</sup>) and cancer (44<sup>th</sup>) – as among the best in the nation, not just the metro area.

Together, the national and the new metro rankings were enough for the magazine to name UCH the best in the area.

The accolades are the latest in a string the hospital has been collecting during the past year.

On Tuesday, for example, the hospital also learned the CEO Roundtable on Cancer named UCH as a “Gold Standard” employer for its attention to “cancer prevention, early detection and quality care.” Its faculty partners once again dominated the listings of “Top Docs” in *5280* magazine.

More globally, the University HealthSystem Consortium – the national association of academic hospitals that many consider to



be the best at complex, high-acuity care – in 2010 found UCH among the country’s top 10 academic medical centers in quality, patient safety and patient satisfaction results (*Insider*, October 13, 2010).

A year ago, the American Nurses Credentialing Center again designated UCH as a “Magnet” hospital for nursing excellence, making it one of fewer than 30 hospitals in the United States to be designated three consecutive times (*Insider*, March 31, 2010). It won “Primary Stroke Center” designation from the Joint Commission. It also became one of the first two hospitals in the land to get national accreditation for a pioneering post-baccalaureate nurse residency program (*Insider*, May 12, 2010).

“Our faculty and staff really are incredible,” said Schroffel, who added that they are responsible not only for the hospital’s clinical outcomes – some 30 to 50 percent better than state averages in many specialties – but for its remarkable financial performance during the past four years.”

Schroffel himself, recently named as the *Denver Post*’s “businessman of the year” and notoriously resistant to resting on laurels, added that “accolades like this are flattering, and they remind us we have to strive every day to build on and improve the level of excellence our patients expect and deserve.”

In all, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked 13 hospitals in the Denver metro area. For the full list of metro area rankings visit [www.usnews.com/hospitals](http://www.usnews.com/hospitals).

**Best Hospitals in Denver Metro Area**

1. University of Colorado Hospital
2. Craig Hospital
2. National Jewish Health
4. HealthOne Rose Medical Center
5. Medical Center of Aurora
6. Denver Health Medical Center
7. Porter Adventist Hospital
8. Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center
8. Sky Ridge Medical Center
10. Exempla St. Joseph Hospital
10. Littleton Adventist Hospital
10. Swedish Medical Center - HealthOne
13. North Suburban Medical Center
13. St. Anthony Central Hospital