



BARRIERS TO TRANSPARENCY

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Leah Binder, MA, MGA

President & CEO, The Leapfrog Group



**Leah Binder**, Contributor

I cover topics in the health care industry.

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Bone-Chilling Mistakes Hospitals Make And Why They Don't Want You To Know

Claire* was detained by security at the airport when the metal detector went off. Guards couldn't figure out why. Eventually, they let her board the flight, but when she arrived home she immediately asked her doctor to order an X-Ray. The result: There in Claire's abdomen, clear as day, was a retractor, a surgical instrument the size of a crowbar, somehow left behind from her recent surgery.



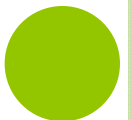
X-Ray (Photo credit: Adrian Barnes)

This story is not as unusual as we would all hope. Indeed, the story is instructive enough that it appears in the leading textbook on patient safety, "[Understanding Patient Safety](#)"

by Bob Wachter.

AHA'S PAMELA THOMPSON & JOHN. R. COMBES

- "...the data did not paint an accurate picture of hospital performance in which CMS could have confidence.
- "It would be similar to your child's teacher telling you that she is about 40 percent sure that your high school student got a C on his semester final, and then publishing that grade for all to see, including prospective colleges."



LEAPFROG'S RESPONSE

- "...if we allowed all students who thought their grades were unfair to suppress the grade from their transcripts, college admissions offices would stop considering high school transcripts altogether..."
- "...for consumers, the choice of a hospital is quite literally life and death. As a result, when measures are not perfectly fair to hospitals, the balance should still tip in favor of public reporting because so much is at stake for patients."



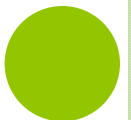
SOME MISSING PUBLIC REPORTS

- Medication safety
- Appropriateness of care delivered
- Surgical outcomes by surgeon
- Procedure-specific SSIs and other HAI measures
- Registry composites
- Patient-reported outcomes



LEAPFROG TRANSPARENCY CHECKLIST

- ❑ Shows variation
- ❑ Relevant
- ❑ Unbiased





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2011 Initial Quality Study

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Compact Car

Award Recipient

Honda Civic (tie)

Honda Insight (tie)



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Company	Ratings Factors					More
	Overall Quality	Overall Quality - Mechanical	Powertrain Quality - Mechanical	Body & Interior Quality - Mechanical	Features & Accessories Quality - Mechanical	
Chevrolet Cruze	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Chevrolet Volt	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Dodge Caliber	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Ford Focus Sedan	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Honda Civic Award Recipient (tie)	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Honda CR-Z	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Honda Insight Award Recipient (tie)	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Hyundai Elantra	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Kia Forte	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Mazda MAZDA3	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Mitsubishi Lancer	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Nissan Sentra	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Subaru Impreza	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Suzuki SX4	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Toyota Corolla	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Toyota Prius	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Volkswagen Golf	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	
Volkswagen Jetta	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	●●●●○	

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Effective Pneumonia Care

 View Graphs

 View More Details

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Pneumonia Patients Whose Initial Emergency Room Blood Culture Was Performed Prior To The Administration Of The First Hospital Dose Of Antibiotics

97% ²

98% ²

100% ²

Pneumonia Patients Given the Most Appropriate Initial Antibiotic (s)

98% ²

98% ²

98% ²

Pneumonia Patients Given Smoking Cessation Advice/Counseling

98% ²

100% ^{1,2}

96% ^{1,2}

Pneumonia Patients Assessed and Given Pneumococcal Vaccination

87% ²

85% ²

94% ²

Pneumonia Patients Assessed and Given Influenza Vaccination

92% ²

91% ²

88% ²



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DEATH RATES

View Graphs View More Details	SHADY GROVE ADVENTIST HOSPITAL ✕ 9901 MEDICAL CTR DR ROCKVILLE, MD 20850 (240) 826-6472 Add to my Favorites Map and Directions	SIBLEY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ✕ 5255 LOUGHBORO RD NW WASHINGTON, DC 20016 (202) 537-4680 Add to my Favorites Map and Directions	WASHINGTON ADVENTIST HOSPITAL ✕ 7600 CARROLL AVE TAKOMA PARK, MD 20912 (301) 891-5651 Add to my Favorites Map and Directions
Rate of Readmission for Heart Attack Patients	No Different than U.S. National Rate	No Different than U.S. National Rate	No Different than U.S. National Rate
Death Rate for Heart Attack Patients	No Different than U.S. National Rate	No Different than U.S. National Rate	No Different than U.S. National Rate
Rate of Readmission for Heart Failure Patients	Worse than U.S. National Rate	No Different than U.S. National Rate	No Different than U.S. National Rate
Death Rate for Heart Failure Patients	No Different than U.S. National Rate	No Different than U.S. National Rate	No Different than U.S. National Rate
Rate of Readmission for Pneumonia Patients	No Different than U.S. National Rate	No Different than U.S. National Rate	No Different than U.S. National Rate
Death Rate for Pneumonia Patients	No Different than U.S. National Rate	No Different than U.S. National Rate	No Different than U.S. National Rate



HOSPITAL COMPARE

- ❑ Shows variation
- ❑ Relevant
- ❑ Unbiased



FOR MORE INFORMATION

- The Leapfrog Group (@LeapfrogGroup):
www.LeapfrogGroup.org
- Hospital Safety Score: www.HospitalSafetyScore.org
- Leapfrog Hospital Survey: www.leapfroghospitalsurvey.org

- Leah Binder (@LeahBinder)
 - Lbinder@LeapfrogGroup.org
 - 202-292-6713

- <http://www.forbes.com/sites/leahbinder/>
- <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/leah-binder/>
- <http://stream.wsj.com/story/experts-health-care/SS-2-1355~>