

Los Angeles Times

Study cites hospitals' coronary bypass death rates

By Mary Engel, Los Angeles Times Staff Writer

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The report rates hospitals using a formula that adjusts for factors that can increase the risk that a patient will die, such as age, gender, co-existing medical conditions and prior heart surgeries.

The analysis, conducted by the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, is intended to provide guidance to Californians seeking treatment for heart disease.

Healthcare experts call this type of public reporting one of the most inexpensive and effective incentives for hospitals to improve patient care.

Two of the California hospitals with mortality rates that were lower than the state average in the report -- Alta Bates Summit Medical Center-Summit Campus in Oakland and Lakewood Regional Medical Center in Los Angeles County – ...

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