

The Nebraska Medical Center Receives Designation from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska

Medical Center Earns Blue Distinction Center for Spine Surgery? & Knee and Hip Replacement?

Omaha, Neb. - Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska has designated The Nebraska Medical Center as a Blue Distinction Center for Spine Surgery and a Blue Distinction Center for Knee and Hip Replacement. Blue Distinction Centers for Spine Surgery and Blue Distinction Centers for Knee and Hip Replacement are part of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association's expansion of its Blue Distinction® designation.

"It is an honor to be recognized as a Blue Distinction Center for Knee and Hip Replacement," said Kevin Garvin, MD, chairperson and professor of the Orthopaedic Surgery Department. "The designation validates the care we provide to patients afflicted with arthritic conditions of the hip and knee." Orthopaedic surgeons at The Nebraska Medical Center perform primary and complex hip and knee replacements on patients with arthritis, problems with joint disease from trauma, childhood hip and knee diseases and prosthetic joint infections.

"It is fitting recognition of the quality of care we provide at The Nebraska Medical Center," said Kenneth Follett, MD, chief of Neurosurgery. "The Blue Distinction designation reflects the expertise of our physicians in the diagnosis and treatment of spinal disorders and our partnership with The Nebraska Medical Center, which has undertaken numerous quality improvement and patient satisfaction initiatives."

"We want to recognize and reward those network providers who are setting new standards of excellence in the quality of health care," said Bill Minier, MD, chief medical officer at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska. "We are pleased at the level of outstanding specialty care available to our members right here in our state."

The selection criteria used to evaluate facilities were developed with input from a panel of expert physicians. The Blue Distinction designation is awarded by the Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies to medical facilities that have demonstrated expertise in delivering quality health care in the areas of bariatric surgery, cardiac care, complex and rare cancers, knee and hip replacement, spine surgery and transplants. The program is part of The Blues® efforts to collaborate with physicians and medical facilities to improve the overall quality and safety of specialty care.

The additional Blue Distinction Centers for Spine Surgery and Blue Distinction Centers for Knee and Hip Replacement designations will bring the nation's number of Blue Distinction designations to more than 1,600.

The Nebraska Medical Center is also a Blue Distinction Center for Complex and Rare Cancers?.

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