

NEWS RELEASE

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**CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER RANKS
AMONG STATE'S BEST FOR NEONATAL CARE**

Independent Report Reflects Exceptional Results Despite Unique Demographic Challenges

Los Angeles, CA — California Hospital Medical Center (CHMC) has exceeded all expectations in achieving outstanding outcomes for neonatal morbidity and mortality. The downtown Los Angeles hospital ranks among the top three in the state of California according to a recent report from the Community Perinatal Network (CPN), a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting optimal perinatal care for patients and families statewide.

The latest State of California perinatal statistics – which indicate how well hospitals care for women and newborns who present to their facility – reveal that CHMC is the 13th largest center for births in the state. The accomplishment is all the more impressive considering the risk factors of the hospital's patient population. "Our patient population risk factors for perinatal morbidity and mortality are three times higher than the general childbearing population, yet we have a 50 percent lower neonatal morbidity and mortality rate when compared to the state," explained Pat Stone, Chief Nursing Executive at CHMC.

CPN reports that 77 percent of all patients who delivered at CHMC in 2009 were Hispanic. However, nearly 20 percent were African American – an increase that is noted because the chance of death or severe illness is three times higher in the African American population than that of the general child-bearing population. In addition, other risk factor percentages rank significantly higher than their state averages. High risk factors in areas such as education level, prenatal care and insurance type, are known to negatively impact maternal, fetal and neonatal morbidity and mortality.

“It is evident that we face a unique challenge here at CHMC,” said Tony Marcelli, Director of Neonatal Intensive Care at CHMC. “However, these impressive outcomes are directly attributed to our team’s unwavering commitment to providing the best possible care.”

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About California Hospital Medical Center

California Hospital Medical Center has been providing high quality, indispensable care to downtown and its neighboring communities since 1887. California Hospital Medical Center is a 319-bed acute care hospital known for its wide range of specialties, from Orthopedics and Surgery to Maternity and Neonatal Intensive Care. It is also the area's only Level II Trauma Center. For more information, please visit www.chmcla.org.