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# NEW JERSEY HEALTH CARE QUALITY INSTITUTE

A BI-WEEKLY LOOK AT THE BUSINESS & POLITICS OF HEALTH CARE IN NEW JERSEY



## **PRESIDENT & CEO, LINDA SCHWIMMER**

### **Volume Matters When It Comes to Surgical Safety – New Leapfrog Report Out**

As Regional Leader for [The Leapfrog Group](#), an independent national health care watchdog organization, we are sharing the just-released report, [Safety In Numbers: Hospital Performance on Leapfrog's Surgical Volume Standard Based on Results of the 2019 Leapfrog Hospital Survey](#). The report analyzes whether hospitals are performing a sufficient volume of high-risk surgeries to perform the procedures safely — and whether the hospital grants privileges only to surgeons meeting the Leapfrog minimum volume standard. Surgeons may achieve the minimum surgeon volume standard by performing the procedure at multiple hospitals. The report also records whether hospitals actively monitor surgeries to assure that each elective surgery is necessary.

#### **Highlights from the 2019 report include:**

- The majority of hospitals are still electively performing high-risk procedures without the adequate, ongoing experience to do so.
- There has been improvement: a higher percentage of hospitals are meeting Leapfrog's minimum volume standards in 2019 than 2018.
- A sizeable percentage of hospitals have implemented protocols to monitor for appropriateness, potentially protecting patients from unnecessary or inappropriate surgeries.

[Read Full Story](#)



## SHEREEF ELNAHAL, MD, MBA

PRESIDENT AND CEO OF  
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

### TAKE FIVE INTERVIEW

#### Interviews with members, influencers, and noteworthy people

Shereef Elnahal, MD, MBA, is the President and CEO of University Hospital in Newark, NJ, a member of the Quality Institute. He is also the newest member of our [Board of Directors](#).

**Interview Sneak Peek:** *Previously you were Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health. How did that specific experience prepare you for running a hospital?*

“...I got an up close and personal look at all of the state regulations that govern things like quality, safety, staffing ratios, etc., to which I’m being held to account right now. All of that was a helpful experience.”

Read Full  
Interview

### SAVE THE DATE

#### Charting the Course for Healthy Aging

Save the date for our annual **Spring All Council Conference on Tuesday, May 12th, 2020 at the Trenton Country Club**

*Additional details, including registration, are forthcoming.*

Save the  
Date

### NEW MEMBER



#### CentraState Medical Center

Established in 1971, CentraState Medical Center is an acute-care medical center licensed for 284 beds. The medical center is a teaching hospital in conjunction with the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Family Medicine Residency Program. In 2020, CentraState entered into a clinical affiliation with Atlantic Health in Morristown.



For information on how to join, please contact Virginia Tesser at [vtesser@njhcqi.org](mailto:vtesser@njhcqi.org).

To learn more about our current initiatives, please visit our website at [www.njhcqi.org](http://www.njhcqi.org).

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