

## What is abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) repair?\*

An aortic aneurysm is a stretched and bulging section in the wall of the aorta. The aorta is the large blood vessel that carries oxygen-rich blood from the heart to the rest of the body. A bulging aorta is weakened and can burst, or rupture, resulting in life-threatening bleeding. Surgery can repair the weakened wall of the aorta before it bursts, called abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) repair.

See Healthwise for additional information on [aortic aneurysms](#).

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## Summary display

The following display shows the death rate for each hospital. Each hospital is compared to the state death rate. If the death rate is significantly lower than the state death rate, the hospital is displayed as "Better than Average". If the death rate is not significantly different from the state death rate, the hospital is displayed as "Average". If the death rate is significantly higher than the state death rate, the hospital is displayed as "Worse than Average." Hospitals with less than 30 cases are displayed as "Too few cases". Hospitals with no cases are displayed as "No Cases". Within each category, hospitals are listed in alphabetical order, not order of performance.

**AAA repair death rate, 2007**

**State death rate: 7.0%**

### Better than Average

N/A

### Average

Kaiser Sunnyside Medical Center  
 OHSU Hospital  
 Providence Portland Medical Center  
 Providence St. Vincent Medical Center  
 Rogue Valley Medical Center  
 Sacred Heart Medical Center

### Worse than Average

N/A

### Too Few Cases

Adventist Medical Center  
 Bay Area Hospital  
 Good Samaritan Regional Med Ctr (Corvallis)  
 Legacy Emanuel Hospital  
 Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital and Med Ctr  
 Legacy Meridian Park Hospital  
 Providence Medford Medical Center  
 Salem Hospital

Sky Lakes Medical Center  
St. Charles Medical Center (Bend)  
Tuality Healthcare  
Willamette Valley Medical Center

## No Cases

Ashland Community Hospital	Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital
Blue Mountain Hospital	Providence Milwaukie Hospital
Columbia Memorial Hospital	Providence Newberg Hospital
Coquille Valley Hospital	Providence Seaside Hospital
Cottage Grove Hospital	Samaritan Albany General Hospital
Curry General Hospital	Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital
Good Shepherd Medical Center	Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital
Grande Ronde Hospital	Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital
Harney District	Santiam Memorial Hospital
Holy Rosary Medical Center	Silverton Hospital
Lake District	Southern Coos Hospital and Health Center
Legacy Mt. Hood Medical Center	St. Anthony Hospital
Lower Umpqua Hospital	St. Charles Medical Center (Redmond)
McKenzie-Willamette Medical Center	St. Elizabeth Health Services
Mercy Medical Center	Three Rivers Community Hospital
Mid-Columbia Medical Center	Tillamook County General Hospital
Mountain View Hospital	Wallowa Memorial Hospital
Peace Harbor Hospital	West Valley Community Hospital
Pioneer Memorial Hospital (Heppner)	Willamette Falls Hospital
Pioneer Memorial Hospital (Prineville)	

## Detailed hospital comparisons

[Detailed hospital comparisons](#)

## Technical documents

[Technical documents](#)

## Hospital comments

[Hospital comments](#)

## Detailed hospital comparisons

### What do these indicators mean?

**Volume.** The number of patients who underwent abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) repair is displayed as the volume. AAA repair is highly specialized, and staff at hospitals that perform more of these surgeries may be more familiar with possible complications. Therefore, performing more of these surgeries may lead to better outcomes. Volume is not a direct measure of the quality of care, but is useful in gauging how much experience a particular hospital has for this procedure.

Research indicates that performing at least 32 surgeries per year may lead to better patient outcomes. In Oregon, six hospitals performed more than 32 AAA repairs in 2007.

**Death Rate.** The AAA repair death rate is the percent of patients admitted for AAA repair who died in the hospital. Nationally in 2004 (the most recent national data), the in-hospital death rate for AAA repair was 7.4%<sup>1</sup>. In Oregon, the death rate was 7.0% in 2007. This report uses the statewide average as the reference rate.

Each hospital rate is displayed as a point on a line in the graphs displayed at the end of this document. These lines represent the amount of random variation in the data. If the hospital line crosses the dotted line representing the state average, the hospital rate is “within the margin of error” and therefore not statistically different than the state average.

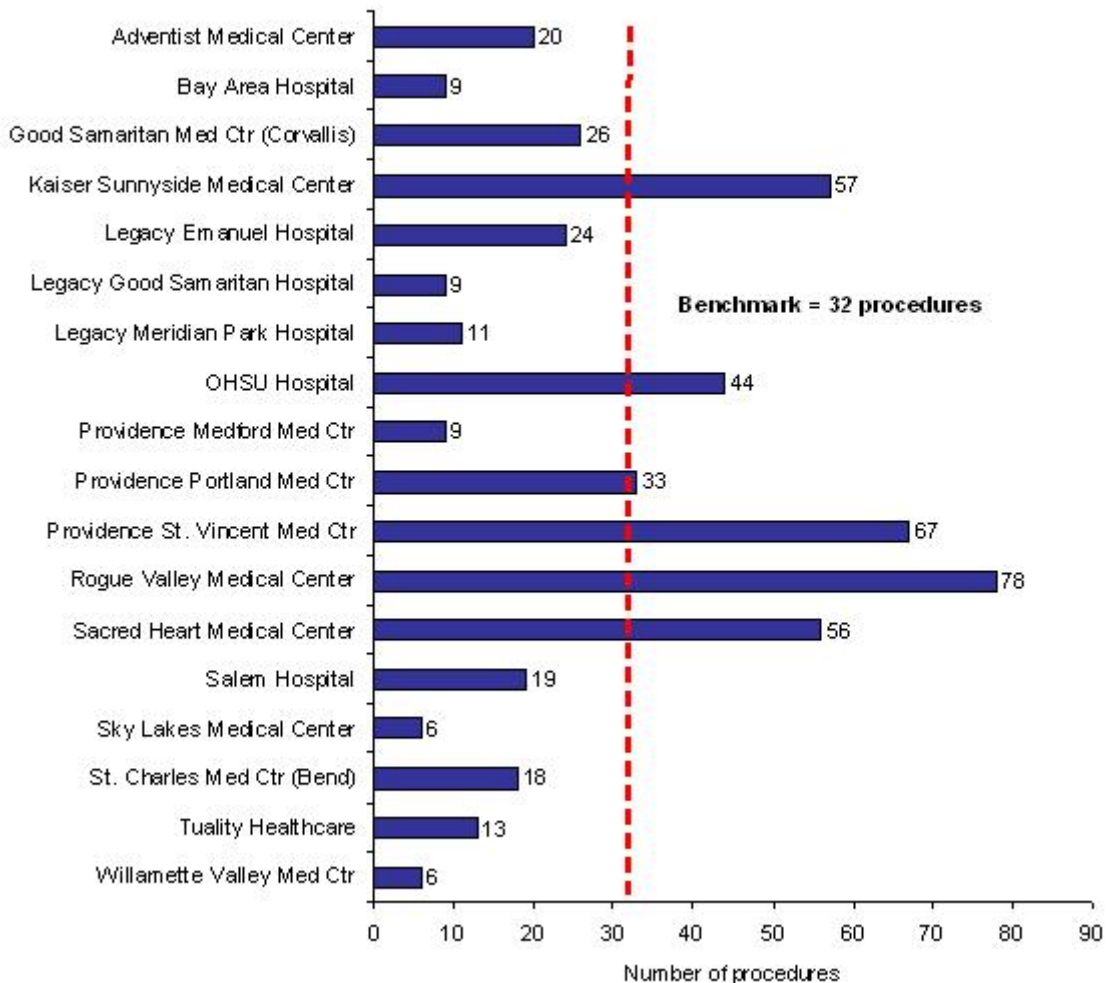
- Number of AAA repair patients appears in parentheses. Hospitals not shown admitted fewer than 30 AAA repair patients in 2007.
- Rates have been adjusted for age, sex, and risk of death
- Applies to adults 18 years of age and older.
- See [Technical Documentation](#) for more detail
- According to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, lower rates may represent better quality.

No hospitals had death rates that were statistically different than the state average.

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<sup>1</sup> Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project, Trends in Hospital Risk-Adjusted Mortality for Select Diagnoses and Procedures, 1994-2004. Access on October 24, 2007 from <http://www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/reports/statbriefs/sb38.pdf>

**Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) Repair Volume (IQI4)**



**Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) Repair Death Rate (IQI11)**

