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South Miami Hospital rewarded for its care

BY JOHN DORSCHNER

In a special Medicare pay-for-performance test program, South Miami Hospital has received the highest total award in Florida and was the only hospital in the state to receive awards in four clinical years, according to the company that administered the program.

The news was released by Premier, which has been conducting the Premier Hospital Quality Incentive Demonstration for the Medicare program over the past five years. About 250 hospitals in 36 states are participating.

The award was not large -- \$76,423 -- but showed that the hospital did much better than others in quality measures involving heart attacks, heart failure, hip and knee replacement and pneumonia.

"We continue to perform exceptionally well, even though the bar keeps being raised," said Think Tran, chief quality and patient safety officer at Baptist Health South Florida, which owns South Miami.

"This kind of performance illustrates that we have hard-wired quality and patient safety into all of our hospitals and outpatient facilities as indicated by these and other measures."

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