

Bernard A. Birnbaum, MD, Quality Leadership

Recognizing and celebrating top performers in quality of care

Cohort criteria

Participating Vizient members are divided into four cohorts:

Comprehensive Academic Medical Centers

Performs a minimum of:

- 25 solid organ transplants
- 600 trauma cases or 1,500 acute transfers in from another acute care facility
- 125 combined cardiothoracic and neurosurgery cases

Large, Specialized Complex Care Medical Centers

Performs a minimum of 75 combined cardiothoracic and neurosurgery cases and one of the following:

- 25 solid organ transplants
- 600 trauma cases
- 1,500 acute transfers in from another acute facility

Complex Care Medical Centers

Hospitals not meeting the above criteria but performing between 25 and 75 combined cardiothoracic and neurosurgery cases in a year.

Community hospitals

Hospitals who do not meet above criteria, excluding critical access and specialty hospitals.

Performance improvement in quality and accountability

The Bernard A. Birnbaum, MD, Quality Leadership award annually highlights Vizient provider customers that demonstrate superior performance, as measured by the Vizient Quality and Accountability Study, conducted annually since 2005.

It was posthumously renamed in 2015 to honor Bernard “Bernie” Birnbaum, MD, who served as senior vice president, vice dean and chief of hospital operations for NYU Langone Medical Center and as a member of the former University HealthSystem Consortium's board of directors.

Six domains

Quality Leadership Performance of patient care is measured in six domains:

- Mortality
- Efficiency
- Effectiveness
- Patient centeredness
- Safety
- Equity of care

Composite scoring

The ranking's composite scoring system uses patient-level performance data from a variety of sources including:

- Vizient Clinical Data Base
- Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) survey, and
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Healthcare Safety Network