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**TWO NORTHEAST GEORGIA MEDICAL CENTER HOSPITALS AWARDED TOP
PATIENT SAFETY RATING**

BRASELTON & WINDER, Ga. – Patients in Winder, Braselton and surrounding communities now have another reason to trust their care to Northeast Georgia Medical Center (NGMC).

NGMC Barrow in Winder recently received a second consecutive “A” Safety Grade from The Leapfrog Group – a national nonprofit upholding the standard of patient safety in hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers – and NGMC Braselton received an “A” as well.

“Safety is our top priority, and we’re all proud of how much the team here has improved the care and patient experience since the hospital joined Northeast Georgia Health System six years ago,” said John Neidenbach, administrator of NGMC Barrow. “It’s an honor to be recognized for a second time in a row by a national advocate of patient safety and quality.”

The Leapfrog Group, an independent national watchdog organization, assigns a letter grade to hospitals across the country based on more than 30 national performance measures reflecting errors, accidents, injuries and infections, as well as systems hospitals have in place to prevent harm. The grading system is peer-reviewed, fully transparent and free to the public. Grades are updated twice annually, in the fall and spring.

“Our doctors, nurses and staff members work hard every day to ensure everyone is safe while in our hospital,” said Anthony Williamson, president of NGMC Braselton. “More than 80,000 of our community members – friends, neighbors and family – trust us with their care, and now they can do so with the certainty that their hospital is ranked among the best in the nation.”

In addition to emergency care and surgery, NGMC Braselton offers labor and delivery services, interventional heart care and much more. The hospital campus in Braselton also includes the new Braselton Surgery Center, Braselton Cancer Center, Urgent Care, a pharmacy, lab services and many physician practices.

NGMC Barrow provides emergency care, surgery, orthopedics, heart care, stroke care, imaging, pulmonary rehabilitation, lab services, wound healing and more. NGMC Barrow has also been recognized as Georgia's "Small Hospital of the Year" by the Georgia Association of Community Hospitals; named one of the "Top 5 Small Hospitals" in the state by Georgia Trend magazine; and ranked in the top 5% of healthcare providers driving employee engagement by Press Ganey.

Learn more at nghs.com/locations.

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ABOUT NORTHEAST GEORGIA MEDICAL CENTER

Since 1951, Northeast Georgia Medical Center (NGMC) has been on a mission of improving the health of our community in all we do. With hospitals located in Gainesville, Braselton, Winder, Dahlonega and Demorest, the five NGMC campuses have a total of more than 850 beds and more than 1,300 medical staff members representing more than 60 specialties. NGMC is part of Northeast Georgia Health System, a non-profit that cares for more than one million people across more than 19 counties. Learn more at nghs.com.

ABOUT THE LEAPFROG GROUP

Founded in 2000 by large employers and other purchasers, [The Leapfrog Group](#) is a national nonprofit organization driving a movement for giant leaps for patient safety. The flagship [Leapfrog Hospital Survey](#) and new [Leapfrog Ambulatory Surgery Center \(ASC\) Survey](#) collect and [transparently report](#) hospital and ASC performance, empowering purchasers to find the highest-value care and giving consumers the lifesaving information they need to make informed decisions. The [Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade](#), Leapfrog's other main initiative, assigns letter grades to hospitals based on their record of patient safety, helping consumers protect themselves and their families from errors, injuries, accidents and infections. For more, [follow us on Twitter and Facebook, and sign up for our newsletter](#).