

# Cardiac Service Line Mortality Drops at Two Hospitals in System

*Key driver of success was incorporating evidence-based practices into an electronic medical record.*

## Results

**35%** *drop in* **PCI mortality**

*rates over the course of one year at MVH*



**83%** *drop in* **CABG mortality**

*rates sustained for two years at MVH*



*Good Samaritan reduced the PCI mortality rate by*

**40%** *over the course* **of one year**

## About Premier Health Partners

Premier Health Partners is a medical network of five hospitals and two major health centers in the Dayton, Ohio region. Premier Health Partners is a partner of Catholic Health Initiatives at their Good Samaritan facilities. Premier Health Partners, which employs 14,000 workers, is the second-largest employer in the Dayton region and ninth-largest employer in Ohio.

## Situation

The quality of Premier Health Partners' cardiac service line was called into question when significantly high mortality rates were seen in the cardiac surgery programs within PHP's two flagship hospitals, Miami Valley and Good Samaritan.

## Solution

Healthgrades clinical consulting team (Quality Improvement & Innovation) evaluated the cardiac surgery process. After conducting a comprehensive root-cause analysis, the team identified several problems that were all contributing to poor outcomes. Based on these findings, the following clinical improvement processes were put into place to remedy the situation.

- A series of mortality case reviews were implemented so that all specialties involved in the care of cardiac patients could assess the needs of each patient.
- A weekly conference was set up to discuss upcoming high-risk cases. Having both Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery on the same page was imperative.
- Using existing EMR systems, Healthgrades developed tools to improve decision-making and standardize downstream care for high-risk patients.
- Physician and hospital dashboards were implemented, summarizing relevant information on all patients.
- Risk-scoring triggers were set up for the primary procedures to ensure that high-risk patients were promptly identified and cared for. Embedding these tools in EPIC created ease of use and increased compliance.

## Conclusion

The benefits of evidence-based practice tools continue to be seen as the PHP Health System shows its sustained improvement and plans to roll these best practices out to another facility in the system: Atrium Medical Center.