

The Herald

NEIGHBORS

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HIALEAH PALMETTO GENERAL GETS HIGH RATING

Palmetto General Hospital

announced it won a five-star rating for clinical excellence in bariatric — or weight loss — surgery from HealthGrades, a leading independent healthcare ratings organization.

In the second annual HealthGrades Bariatric Surgery Trends in American Hospitals Study, Palmetto General, 2001 W. 68th St. in Hialeah, ranked in the top 15 percent in the nation for bariatric surgery, which includes gastric bypass and laparoscopic procedures, the hospital said.

The study analyzed the outcomes of 166,410 patients in hospitals in 19 states during 2003-05. The average length of stay for patients undergoing the procedure was 26 percent shorter for five-star hospitals than for one-star hospitals. Average mortality rates were low across the board but the average mortality rate in five star-rated facilities was

almost half the rate of all other U.S. hospitals, Palmetto General said.

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