

# Looking for expertise in surgical care?

*You got it, with Blue Distinction Specialty Care.*

The Blue Distinction Specialty Care program helps you find a hospital that's recognized for excellent care, with faster recovery times and lower costs. When you have surgery or a major procedure, you want this level of service. And finding the right hospital is simpler when you have access to **Blue Distinction Centers** and **Blue Distinction Centers+**. Why? Because these hospitals:

- Are known for the expertise of their health care team.
- Have done certain procedures more times than other hospitals.
- Have a proven history of providing better treatment results with fewer complications than other health care facilities.

In addition to these great features, **Blue Distinction Centers+** are recognized for offering greater savings.

**Blue Distinction Centers+** are about 19% more cost-efficient than other hospitals for bariatric surgery, cardiac care, spine surgery, knee and hip replacement, maternity care and transplants.\*

**You deserve a higher standard of care, the kind you get from Blue Distinction Centers and Blue Distinction Centers+. That's because they've met strict standards created by expert doctors and health care groups. These standards include better treatment results and fewer complications and re-admissions than other hospitals.**

**With more than 2,800 Blue Distinction Centers across the country, featuring more than 3,500 programs, quality care is never far away.**



## Blue Distinction Centers and Blue Distinction Centers+ specialty areas

### Bariatric surgery

These centers provide bariatric surgery care services, including:

- Inpatient care
- Outpatient follow-up care
- Post-surgery care
- Patient education

Members who use Blue Distinction Centers for bariatric surgery have 26% fewer re-admissions and 31% fewer complications than those who don't use Blue Distinction Centers.\*

### Cardiac care

These centers offer complete cardiac care services, including:

- Inpatient care
- Heart valve surgery
- Coronary artery bypass graft surgery
- Angioplasty (percutaneous coronary intervention)

Members who use Blue Distinction Centers for cardiac care have a 29% lower risk of inappropriate angioplasties than those who don't use Blue Distinction Centers.\*

### Knee and hip replacement

These centers offer comprehensive inpatient knee-and-hip-replacement services, including total knee replacement and total hip replacement.

Members who use Blue Distinction Centers for knee and hip replacement have 4% fewer re-admissions and 7% fewer complications than those who don't use Blue Distinction Centers.\*

### Maternity care

These centers offer vaginal and cesarean delivery services. Members who use Blue Distinction Centers for maternity care have a 71% lower rate of early elective deliveries.\*

### Spine surgery

These centers offer complete inpatient spine surgery services, including:

- Discectomy
- Decompression procedures
- Fusion

Members who use Blue Distinction Centers for spine surgery have 38% fewer lumbar re-admissions, 24% fewer cervical re-admissions and 47% fewer re-operations than those who don't use Blue Distinction Centers.\*

### Transplants

Transplant services include:

- Heart
- Lung
- Pancreas (adult transplants only)
- Bone marrow/stem cell
- Liver

Members who use Blue Distinction Centers for transplant surgery have a 15% to 20% higher success rates than those who don't use Blue Distinction Centers.\*

### Find Blue Distinction Centers and Blue Distinction Centers+ in minutes:

1. Log in to [anthem.com/ca](https://www.anthem.com/ca).
2. Choose **Find a Doctor**.
3. Under *I'm looking for a*, pick **Hospitals and Facilities**.
4. From the *Who specializes in* list, choose **General/Acute Care Hospitals**. Be sure to include the location.
5. Choose **Search**. If a facility listed is a Blue Distinction Center, you'll find a Blue Distinction mark in the **Quality Snapshot** next to the facility name.



\*Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, 2016

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