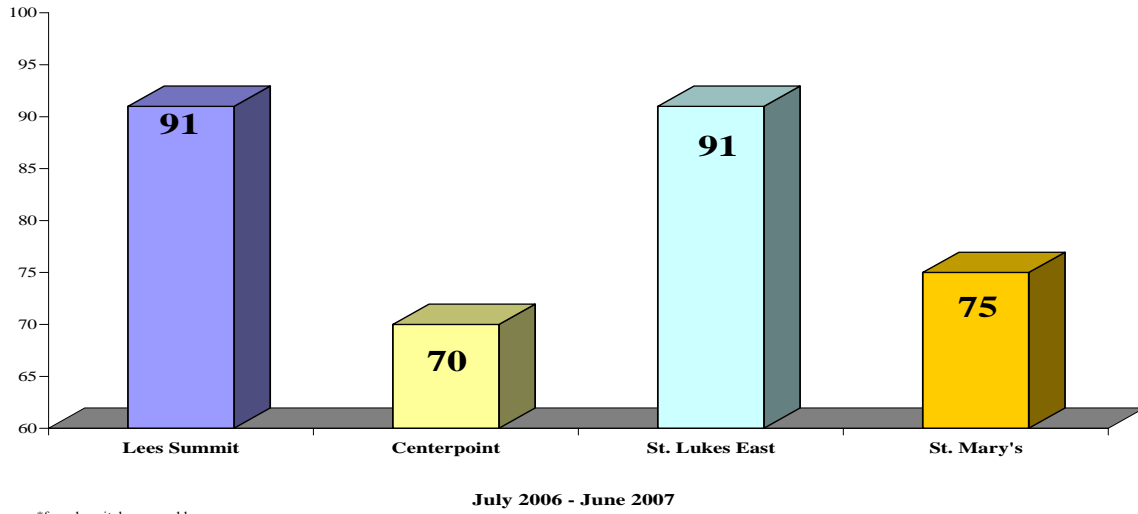


St. Mary's Medical Center Pneumonia Quality Measures July 2006 – June 2007

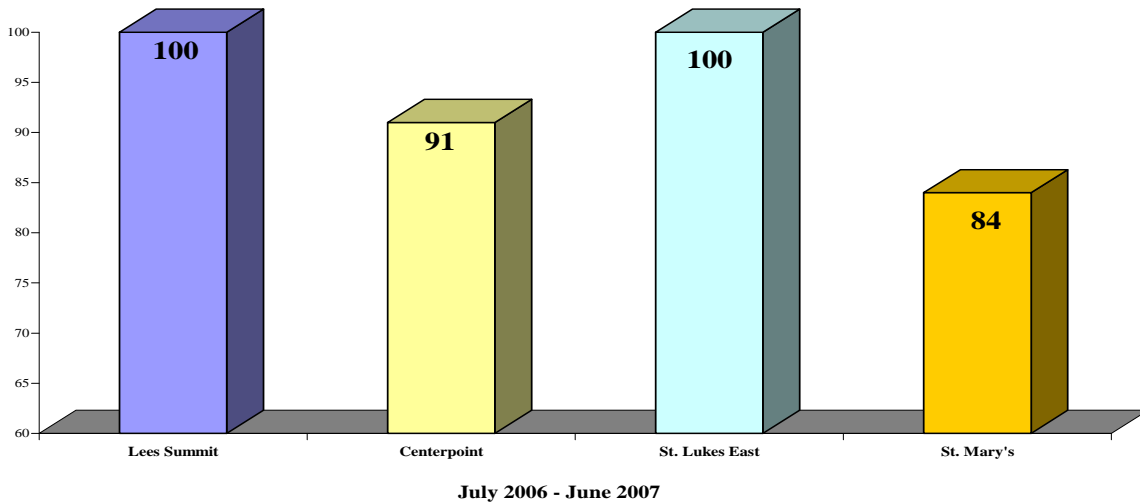
Pneumonia Patients Assessed and Given Pneumococcal Vaccine



Why is this important?

The pneumococcal vaccine may help you prevent, or lower the risk of complications of pneumonia caused by bacteria. It may also help you prevent future infections. Patients with pneumonia should be asked if they have been vaccinated recently for pneumonia and, if not should be given the vaccine.

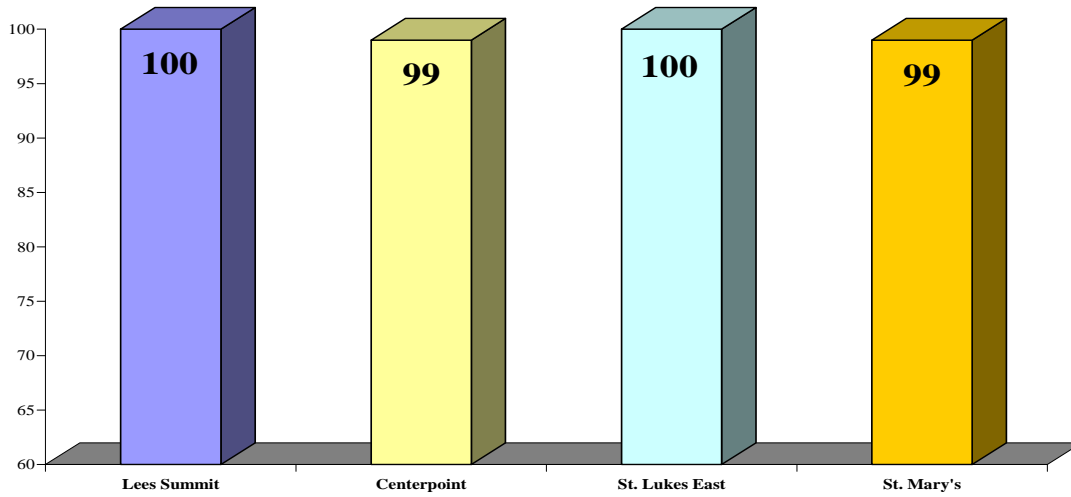
Pneumonia Patients Given Initial Antibiotic(s) Within 6 hours After Arrival



Why is this important?

Antibiotics are used to treat adults with pneumonia caused by bacteria. Early treatment with antibiotics can cure bacterial pneumonia and reduce the possibility of complications. This information shows the percent of patients who were given their first dose of antibiotic within 6 hours of arrival at the hospital.

Pneumonia Patients Given Oxygenation Assessment



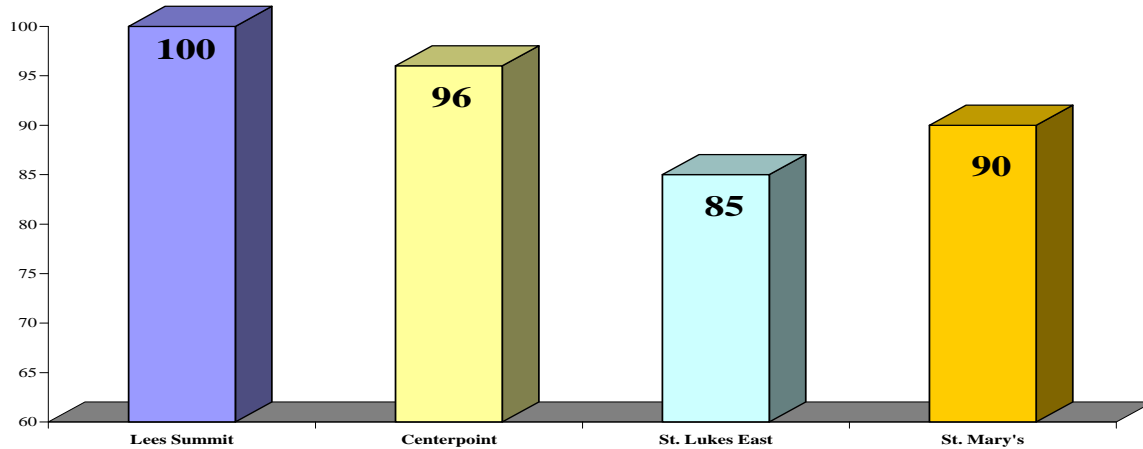
July 2006 - June 2007

*from hospitalcompare.hhs.gov

Why is this important?

Pneumonia can lower the oxygen in your blood because the air spaces in your lungs fill with mucus. The oxygen you breathe does not get into your bloodstream. It is important that the amount of oxygen in your blood be measured within 24 hours of arriving at the hospital to see if you need oxygen therapy. The assessment may include an ABG (arterial blood gas) or pulse oximetry (electrodes attached to a part of your body like a finger, earlobe, or skin fold)

Pneumonia Patients Given Smoking Cessation Advice/Counseling



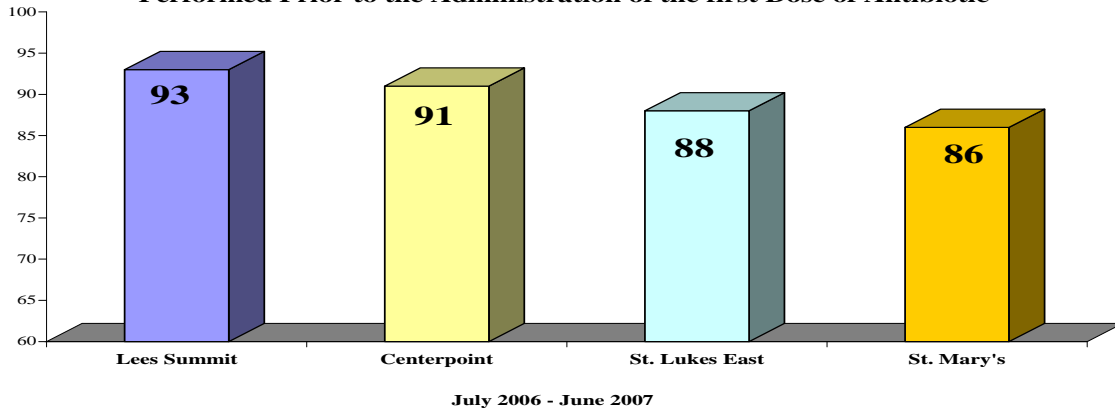
July 2006 - June 2007

*from hospitalcompare.hhs.gov

Why is this important?

Smoking damages your lungs and can make it hard to breathe. Smoking increased your chances of getting pneumonia or other chronic lung diseases like emphysema and bronchitis. Smoking is also linked to lung cancer, heart disease, and stroke, and cause premature death. It is important for you to get information to help you quit smoking before you leave the hospital. Quitting may reduce your chance of getting pneumonia again.

Pneumonia Patients Whose Initial Emergency Room Blood Culture was Performed Prior to the Administration of the first Dose of Antibiotic

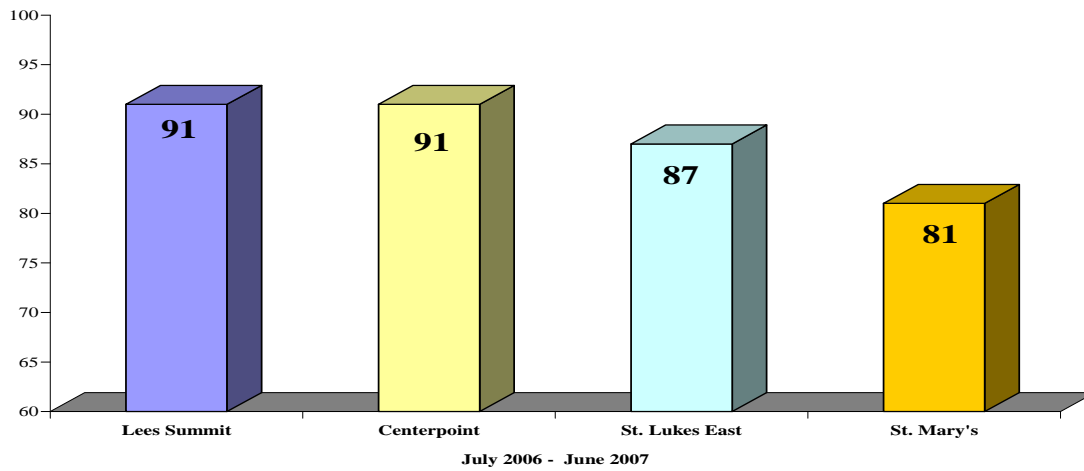


*from hospitalcompare.hhs.gov

Why is this important?

Different types of bacteria can cause pneumonia. A blood culture is a test that lets the health care provider know which bacteria may have caused your pneumonia, and which antibiotic should be prescribed. It is best to do the blood culture within 24 hours of arrival at the hospital and before antibiotics are started. It is also important to start antibiotics as soon as possible.

Pneumonia Patients Given the Most Appropriate Initial Antibiotic(s)

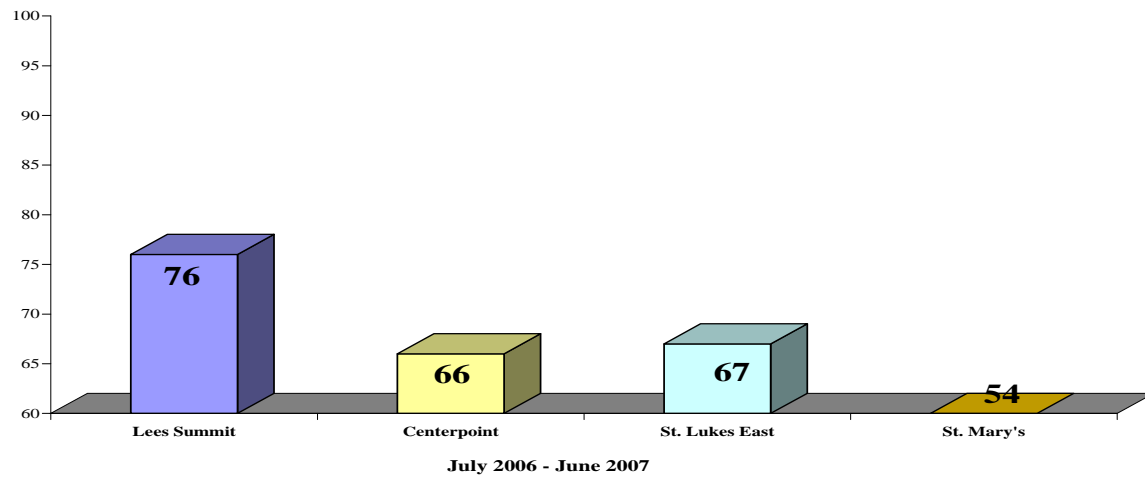


*from hospitalcompare.hhs.gov

Why this is important:

Pneumonia is a lung infection that is usually caused by bacteria or a virus. If pneumonia is caused by bacteria, hospitals will treat the infection with antibiotics. Different bacteria are treated with different antibiotics.

Pneumonia Patients Assessed and Given Influenza Vaccination



*from hospitalcompare.hhs.gov

Why this is important:

Flu shots reduce the risk of influenza, a serious and sometimes deadly lung infection that can spread quickly in a community or facility. Hospitals should check to make sure that pneumonia patients, particularly those who are age 50 or older, get a flu shot during flu season to protect them from another lung infection and to help prevent the spread of influenza