

## Directory of Blue Distinction Centers for Spine Surgery®

This Provider Directory is your guide to facilities that have been designated as Blue Distinction Centers or Blue Distinction Centers+ for Spine Surgery by Blue Shield of California. We are continually updating this list. If you do not see a particular healthcare provider listed, need additional information regarding a provider or have any questions, please contact Brenda Riolo at 415-229-6574 or via email [brenda.riolo@blueshieldca.com](mailto:brenda.riolo@blueshieldca.com).

### The Blue Distinction® Program

The Blue Distinction Program is a national designation given by BlueCross and BlueShield companies. The Blue Distinction Program, which includes designations in several medical disciplines, was developed to help patients find quality providers for their specialty care needs, while encouraging health professionals to improve the care they deliver. Research confirms that designated Blue Distinction Centers demonstrate better quality and level of improved outcomes for patients, with lower rates of complications and readmissions, than those experienced by their peers who received treatment outside of the Centers.

Facilities are evaluated on quality components that were developed using input from the medical community and include the following:

- Reviews of medical literature, as well as national quality and safety initiatives;
- Recommendations from expert panels, medical organizations and quality measurement experts; and
- A thorough analysis of past requests for survey information.

The chosen criteria directly impact the quality of treatment for patients, e.g., surgical team expertise and outcomes. Participation in the Blue Distinction Centers program is voluntary for hospitals. Facilities not referenced either did not meet the criteria or chose not to participate in the program at this time.

### The Blue Distinction Centers for Spine Surgery Program

The Blue Distinction Centers for Spine Surgery program recognizes hospitals and medical facilities that have demonstrated expertise in delivering better overall outcomes for spine surgery patients. Qualifying programs offer comprehensive inpatient spine surgery services, including discectomy, fusion and decompression procedures.

### Blue Distinction Centers+

Blue Distinction Centers+ not only meet the same quality criteria as Blue Distinction Centers, but they also go a step further. Hospitals receiving a Blue Distinction Center+ designation are also measured on how efficiently they deliver this high-quality patient care. The cost of care measures that Blue Distinction Centers+ must meet were developed to establish nationally consistent, equitable, and objective criteria for choosing those Centers whose costs respond to the market's demand for more affordable health care.

The list of the specific selection criteria used to evaluate hospitals for the Blue Distinction Centers for Spine Surgery recognition is available at [BDC Spine Criteria](#).

The Blue Distinction Centers for Spine Surgery designation is informational only for Blue Shield members in California. The Blue Distinction national designation is also informational only, and is applicable to patients whose employers are national, and who are insured by Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies outside of California.



Blue Distinction Centers for Spine Surgery as of August 16, 2013

Type: BD = Blue Distinction Center and BD+ = Blue Distinction Center Plus

No	Hospital Name	City	Hospital PIN	Type	Designation Effective Date
1	Chapman Medical Center	Orange	ZZZB3015Z	BD	03/01/13
2	Doctors Medical Center	Modesto	ZZZA0464Z	BD+	03/15/13
3	Dominican Santa Cruz Hospital	Santa Cruz	ZZZA4401Z	BD	04/01/13
4	El Camino Hospital	Mountain View	ZZZA4304Z	BD	03/15/13
5	El Camino Hospital Los Gatos	Los Gatos	ZZZA4315Z	BD	03/15/13
6	Enloe Medical Center Esplanade	Chico	ZZZC0401Z	BD+	01/01/13
7	Fountain Valley Regional Hospital Medical Center	Fountain Valley	ZZZA3021Z	BD+	03/01/13
8	Fresno Community Hospital	Fresno	ZZZA1001Z	BD+	01/01/13
9	Glendale Adventist Medical Center	Glendale	ZZZA1902Z	BD+	01/01/13
10	Good Samaritan Hospital	Los Angeles	ZZZB1909Z	BD+	01/01/13
11	Grossmont Hospital	La Mesa	ZZZA3704Z	BD	03/15/13
12	John Muir Medical Center - Walnut Creek Campus	Walnut Creek	ZZZA0703Z	BD	04/01/13
13	Keck Hospital of USC	Los Angeles	ZZZA1922A	BD	01/01/13
14	Loma Linda University Medical Center	Loma Linda	ZZZA3601Z	BD	01/21/13
15	Marin General Hospital	Greenbrae	ZZZA2101Z	BD	01/01/13
16	Mercy General Hospital	Sacramento	ZZZA3401Z	BD	03/01/13
17	Mercy Medical Center - Redding	Redding	ZZZC4504Z	BD+	02/01/13
18	Orange Coast Memorial Medical Center	Fountain Valley	ZZZA3018Z	BD+	02/15/13
19	Palomar Health - Downtown Campus	Escondido	ZZZA3714Z	BD	03/15/13
20	Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center	Pomona	ZZZA1924Z	BD	03/15/13
21	Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital*	Whittier	ZZZA1933Z		12/21/09
22	Queen of the Valley Medical Center	Napa	ZZZA2803Z	BD+	01/01/13
23	Redlands Community Hospital	Redlands	ZZZA3604Z	BD+	01/01/13
24	Saddleback Memorial Medical Center	Laguna Hills	ZZZA3013Z	BD+	01/01/13
25	Saint Francis Memorial Hospital	San Francisco	ZZZA3807Z	BD+	01/01/13
26	San Ramon Regional Medical Center	San Ramon	ZZZA0700Z	BD+	03/15/13
27	Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center	Santa Monica	ZZZA1928Z	BD+	03/15/13
28	Scripps Green Hospital	La Jolla	ZZZH3705Z	BD	08/01/13
29	Scripps Memorial Hospital	La Jolla	ZZZA3701Z	BD	08/01/13
30	Scripps Memorial Hospital Encinitas	Encinitas	ZZZD0503Z	BD	08/01/13
31	Scripps Mercy Hospital	San Diego	ZZZA3708Z	BD	08/01/13
32	Scripps Mercy Hospital Chula Vista	Chula Vista	ZZZC3719Z	BD	08/01/13
33	Sharp Memorial Hospital	San Diego	ZZZA3705Z	BD+	01/01/13
34	Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center	San Luis Obispo	ZZZA4002Z	BD+	01/01/13
35	St Agnes Medical Center	Fresno	ZZZA1002Z	BD+	06/01/13
36	St Joseph Hospital Eureka	Eureka	ZZZC1203Z	BD	02/01/13
37	St Joseph Hospital of Orange	Orange	ZZZA3001Z	BD+	01/01/13
38	St Joseph Medical Center of Stockton	Stockton	ZZZA3902Z	BD+	01/01/13

No	Hospital Name	City	Hospital PIN	Type	Designation Effective Date
39	St Jude Medical Center	Fullerton	ZZZA3003Z	BD	02/01/13
40	Stanford University Hospital	Palo Alto	ZZZA4309Z	BD+	01/01/13
41	Torrance Memorial Med Ctr	Torrance	ZZZA1958Z	BD+	01/01/13
42	UC Davis Medical Center	Sacramento	ZZZA3407Z	BD+	01/01/13
43	UCSD Medical Center - Hillcrest	San Diego	ZZZA3715Z	BD+	02/01/13
44	UCSF Medical Center	San Francisco	ZZZJ3803Z	BD	02/01/13
45	Valleycare Memorial Hospital	Pleasanton	ZZZB0103Z	BD+	01/01/13

Total = 45 hospitals  
 BD+ = 24 hospitals  
 BD = 20 hospitals  
 BD? = 1 hospital

Note: \* This hospital was designated in a previous RFI and was re-designated, but has not yet signed the participation agreement. Hospitals listed in this directory as a Blue Distinction Center have a signed Blue Distinction program participation agreement with Blue Shield of California.