

The Leapfrog Group

Improving the quality and safety of health care services

Organization Description: The Leapfrog Group is a consortium of Fortune 500 companies and other health care purchasers that provide health benefits to more than 37 million Americans in all 50 states. It was founded by the Business Roundtable in 2000. The Leapfrog Group works to initiate improvements in safety, quality, and affordability of health care for Americans. Leapfrog Group members have agreed to a set of health care principles of quality improvement and consumer involvement.

Proposal Summary: Leapfrog Group does not engage significantly in political advocacy. The organization does not have a comprehensive health reform proposal.

- **Quality:** Leapfrog Group drives quality improvement by leveraging members' health care purchasing power. Leapfrog primarily focuses on pay-for-performance (P4P) initiatives and has created the Leapfrog Hospital Rewards Program to encourage improvements in hospital quality and efficiency. Leapfrog Group collects and analyzes its own data on health care quality through the Leapfrog Survey, which queries over 1,960 urban and suburban hospitals across the country. The organization garners the support of large health care purchasers, brokers, and providers to make major advances in safety, quality, and affordability of care.

Leapfrog Group has been advocating for hospitals to adopt “never events” policies prohibiting them to bill a patient or third party payer for any costs directly related to a never event. Never events are defined by the National Quality Forum as one of 28 serious, identifiable, largely preventable medical errors. Leapfrog Group recently addressed the issue of never events to outgoing House Ways and Means Health Subcommittee Chairman Bill Thomas (R-CA) requesting that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) adopt similar never events policies for Medicare.

Proposal Date: 2006

Source: *The Leapfrog Group Fact Sheet*, http://www.leapfroggroup.org/about_us/leapfrog-factsheet.