

# MEMORANDUM: Evaluating Cardiac Surgery Options: A Guide for Patients

**To:** Potential Cardiac Surgery Patients  
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## Introduction

Choosing a hospital for coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgery is a major decision. This memo summarizes an analysis of U.S. hospital cardiac care quality based on 2021 data, focusing on mortality rates and patient ratings. The goal is to provide actionable insights and a user-friendly dashboard to aid your decision-making process.

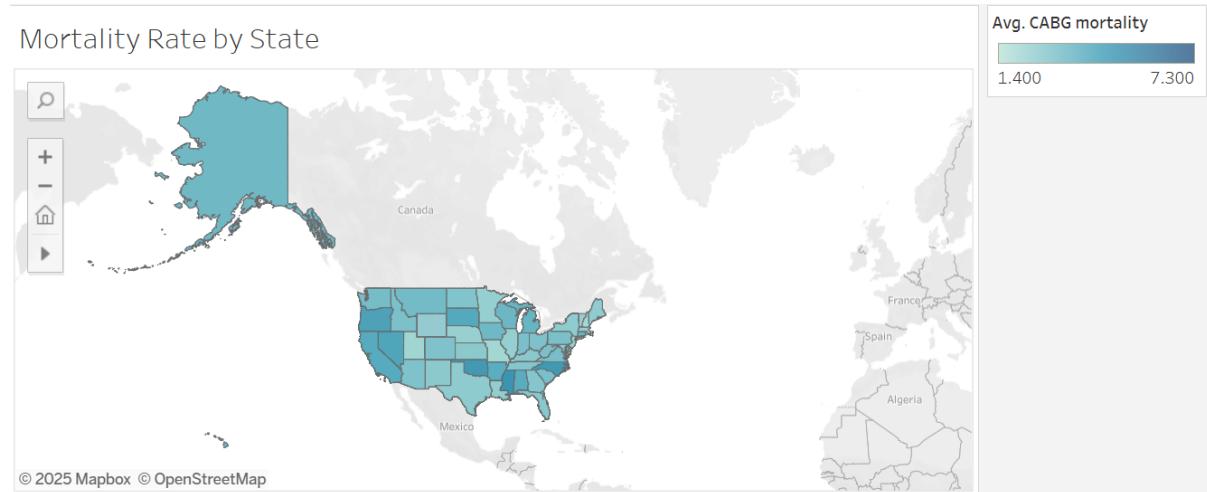
## Key Insights

### 1. Mortality Rate by State (Map)

This map shows the average CABG mortality rate per state, filtered to hospitals offering EMS services.

**Observation:** States like Massachusetts and California show lower average mortality rates (~1.5%–2.0%), while some southern and midwestern states show rates exceeding 3%.

**Actionable Use:** Patients can identify their state and explore hospitals with safer CABG outcomes.

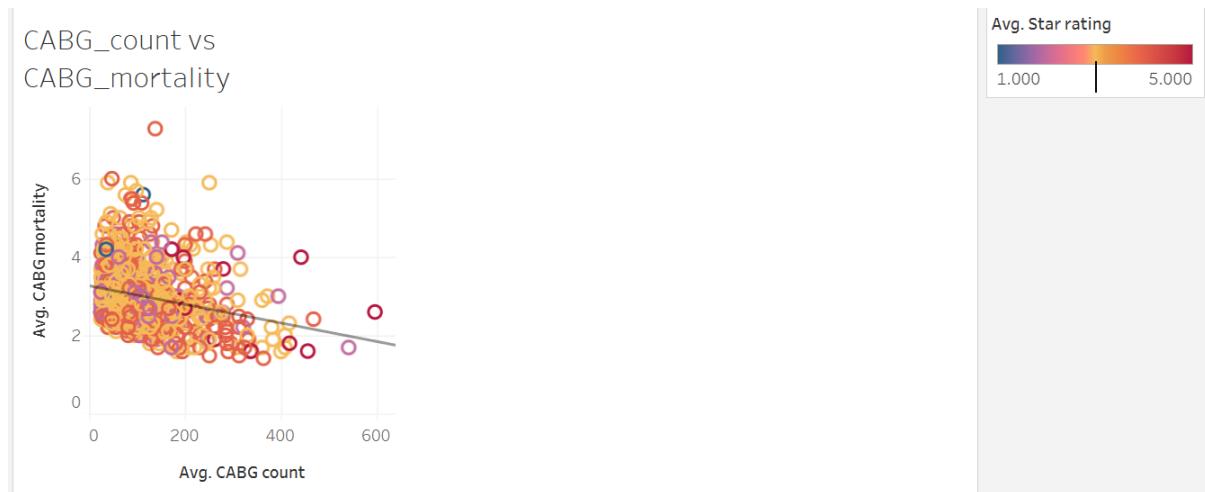


### 2. CABG Count vs Mortality Rate (Scatter Plot)

This scatter plot analyzes whether higher patient volume correlates with better outcomes.

**Insight:** A clear downward trend indicates that hospitals performing more CABG procedures tend to have lower mortality rates, supporting the idea that specialization improves quality.

**Example:** Hospitals performing over 200 surgeries annually often maintain mortality below 2.5%.

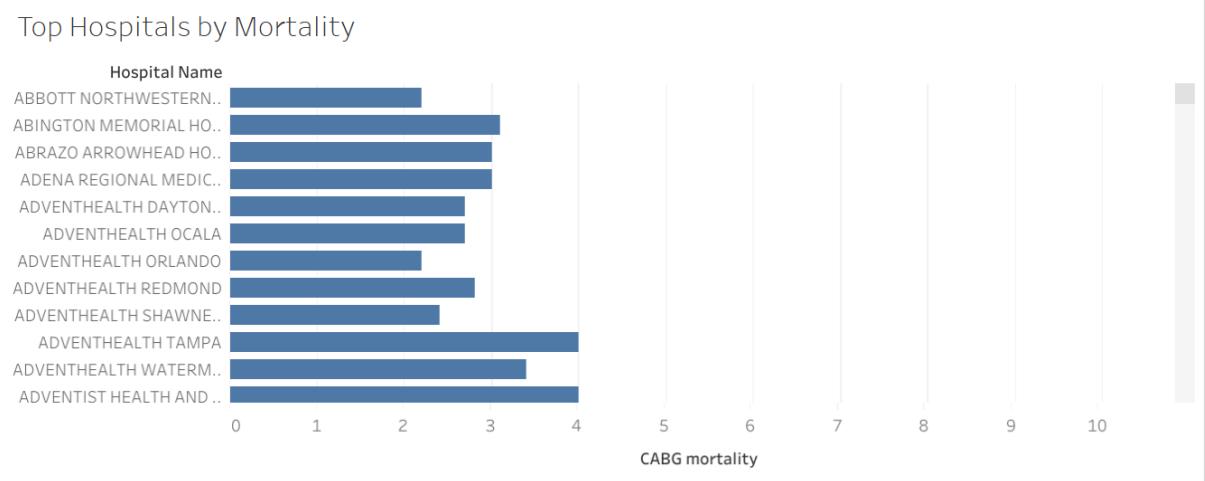


### 3. Top Hospitals by Mortality (Bar Chart)

This chart lists hospitals ranked by their reported CABG mortality rates.

**Highlight:** Institutions like Abbott Northwestern, Adena Regional, and AdventHealth Shawnee report mortality rates below 2.5%, positioning them as top performers.

Additional details like State and EMS availability are available via tooltips.



**How to Use the Dashboard:** The interactive dashboard includes filters for:

- State – to find hospitals near you.
- EMS Availability – to see hospitals with emergency care.
- Star Rating – for patient-reported satisfaction.

Hover over points or bars for hospital-specific data on mortality, procedure count, EMS, and ratings.

**Conclusion:** Hospitals with higher CABG volumes often achieve better outcomes, and quality varies across states. This tool is designed to support patients in making informed choices when considering CABG surgery.

**Tableau Dashboard Link:**

<https://prod-useast-b.online.tableau.com/#/site/msis670b/workbooks/2704766>