

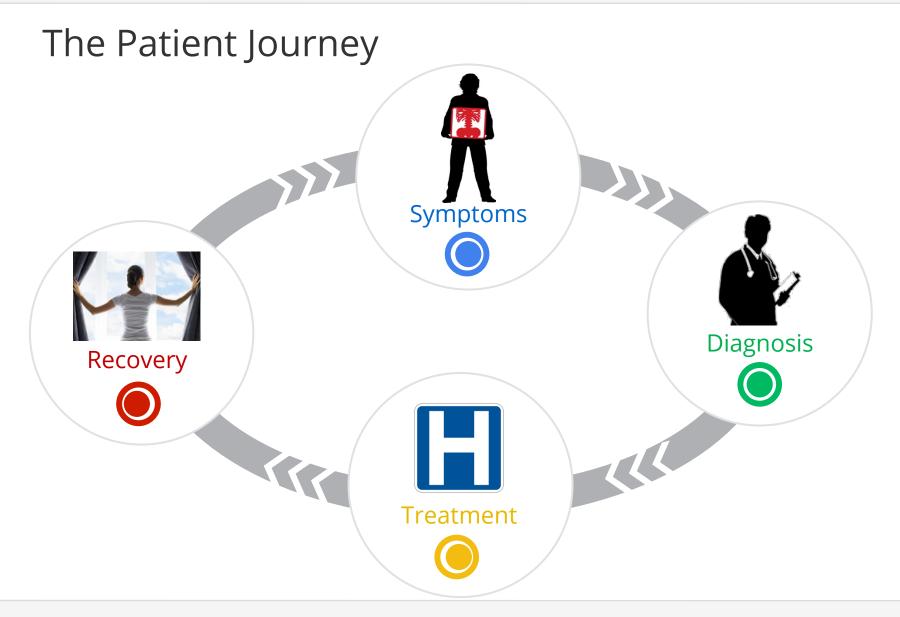
# The Digital Journey to Wellness

2012 Google/Compete Hospital Study

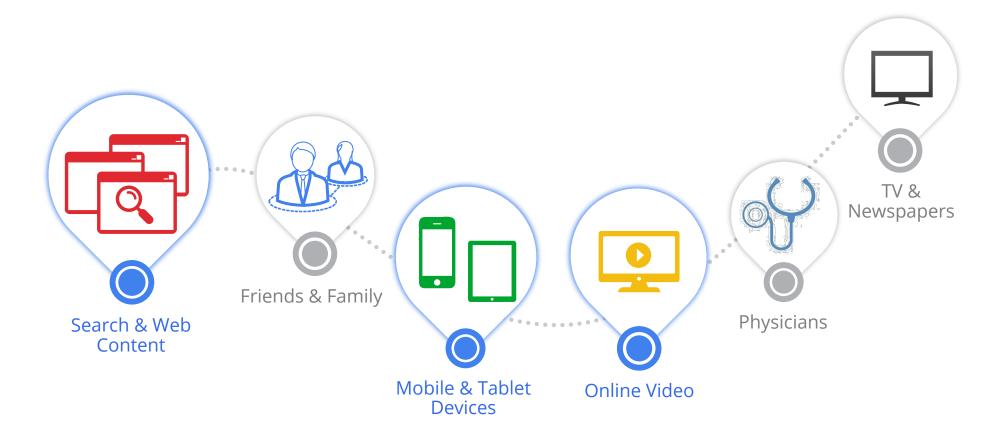








# Google



We sought to understand what influences hospital choice and what role digital plays in the journey



## Overview and Methodology

We partnered with **Compete**, a third-party research vendor, to understand how digital drives hospital research and appointments



We **tracked** hospital researchers' activity across online platforms between Q1 '11 & Q1 '12



We analyzed online behavior of users from start of research to point of conversion\*



We surveyed 533 hospital researchers in May and June 2012 to gain behavioral insights

<sup>\*</sup>A conversion was defined as the following: booking an appointment, finding a doctor/location, and contacting a hospital



## Prospective patients tell us digital matters



**Search** is indispensable in patient journey Search impacts brands



**Mobile** is the patient's constant companion Mobile will be as important as desktop

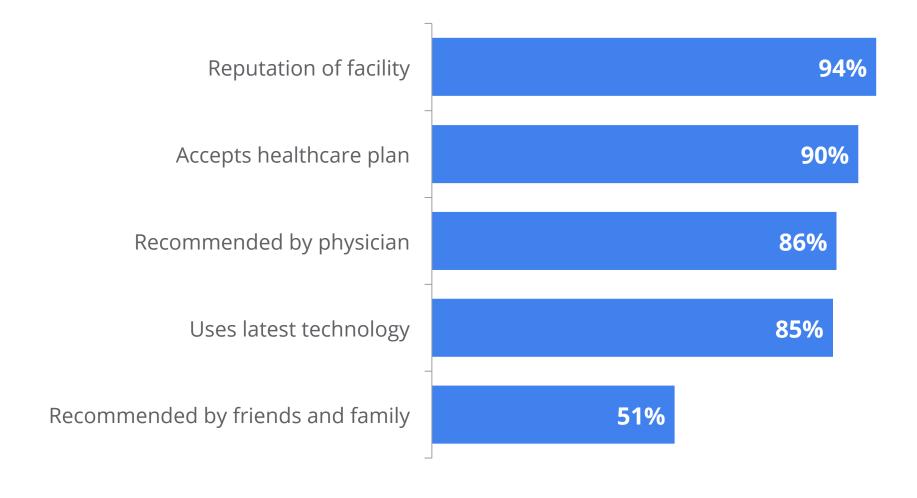


#### Online Video informs and connects

Sight, sound, and motion tell stories & fuels conversions



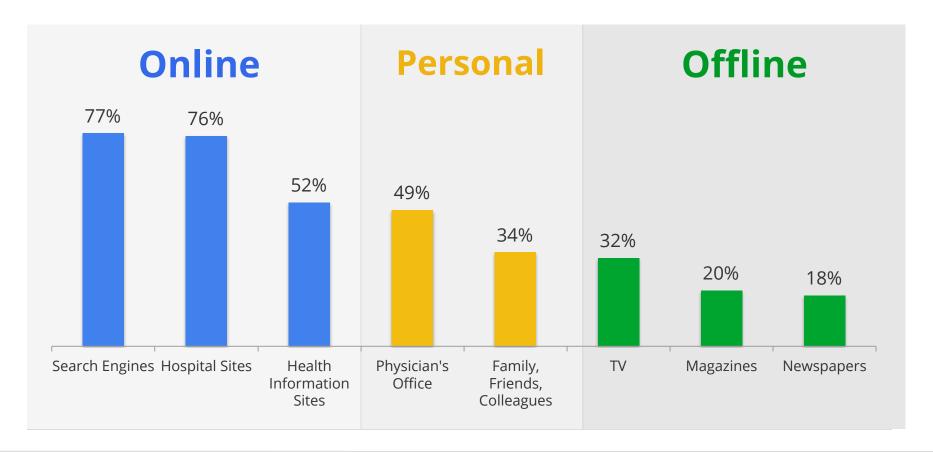
## Brand is important to prospective patients





# Online plays a significant role in the research process

84% of patients use both online and offline sources for research





## Before booking, patients put in time and consideration to their research

48%

took over 2 weeks to research before booking 61%

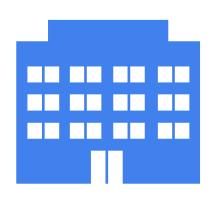
visited **2+ hospital sites** before converting





# For patients who booked appointments, digital content is key to decision-making

Users tapped into the following resources when researching:



83%

**Hospital Sites** 



**54%** 

Health Insurance **Company Sites** 



**50%** 

Health Information Sites

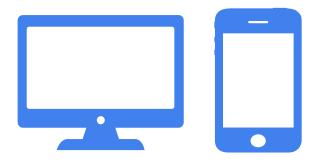


26%

Consumer Generated Reviews



## 1 in 5 patients is now booking through non-traditional means



**21%** booking via computer or mobile app/browser



**56%** called on phone



23% booked in person



# After appointments, patients are spreading the word about their experiences

50%

recommended family, friends, and colleagues contact the same facility **12%** 

posted review on social network site

6%

posted a review on a website



## Prospective patients tell us digital matters



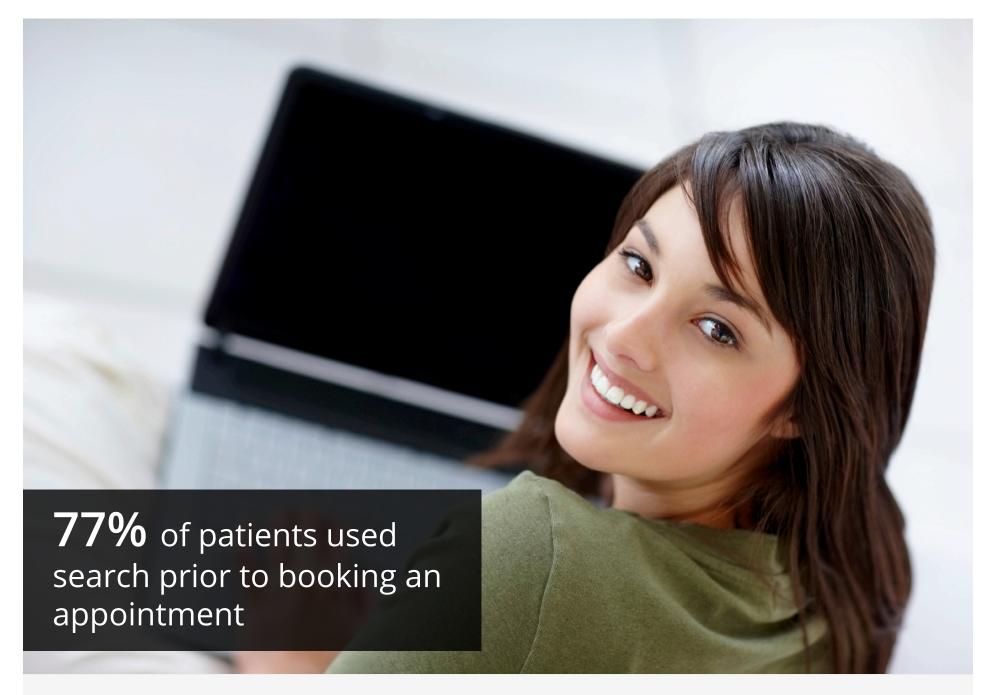
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Search empowers patients, who leverage it for...

**DISCOVERY** OF NEW HOSPITALS (21%)

**EVALUATION** of Specific Features (29%)

GENERAL INFORMATION (57%)

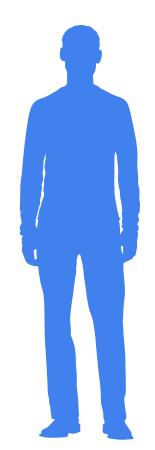
**COMPARISON** of offerings across facilities (28%)

**CONSIDERATION** OF HOSPITALS THEY KNOW (16%)



## Search drives more valuable visitors to hospital sites than other traffic sources

43% of visits to hospital sites originate from a search engine



#### **Searchers**

**22M** unique visits

4.4% conversion rate

> 958K conversions



#### Non-Searchers

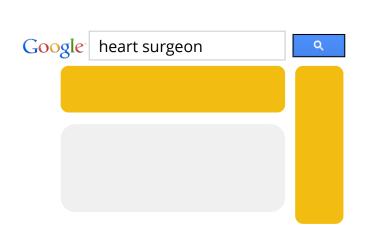
6M unique visits

4.2% conversion rate

> 243K conversions



## When patients see a paid search ad, they take action







## Each patient creates a unique search path



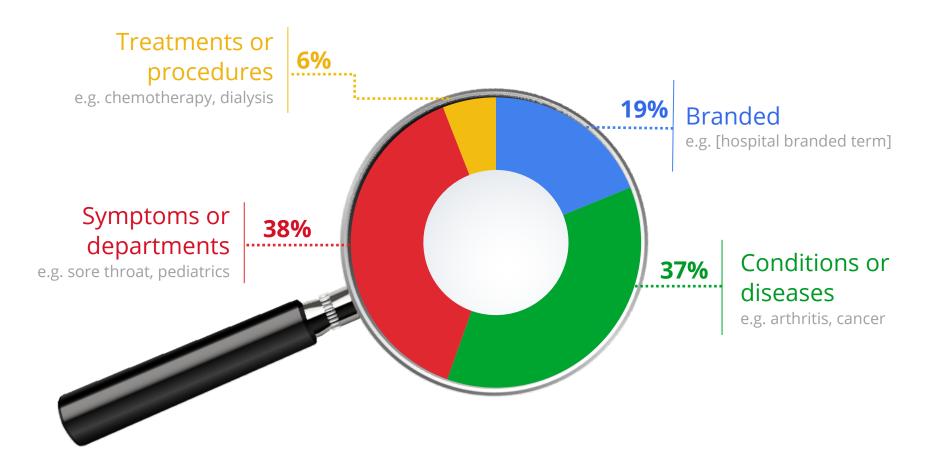
Patients used nearly

**4k** unique search paths, with the top 20 paths representing

65% of all patient paths

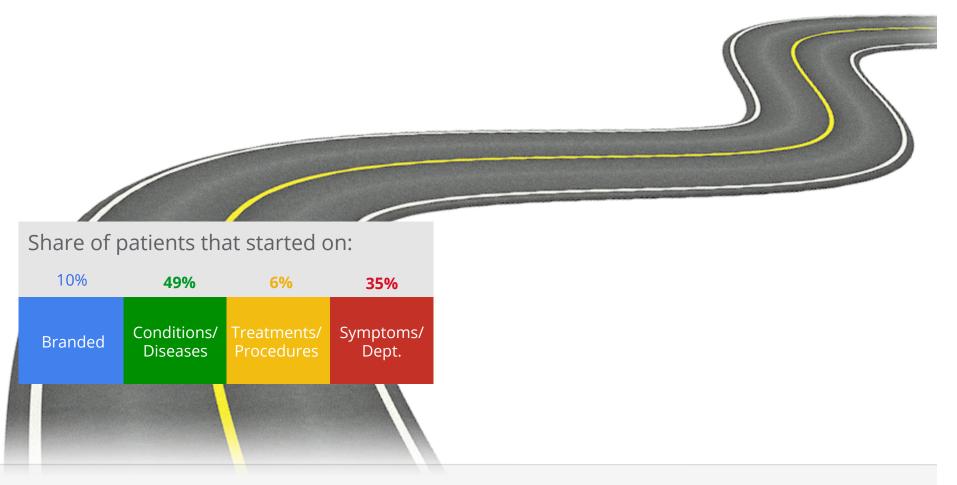


# Search paths are highly diverse and comprised primarily of symptoms and conditions terms



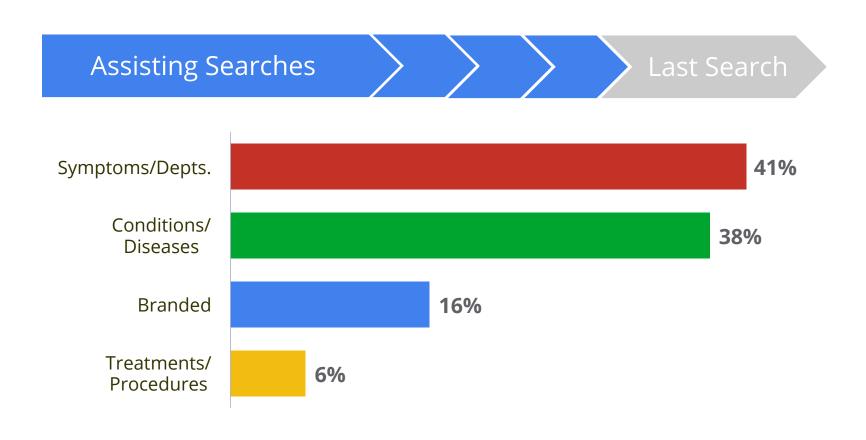


# Most paths begin with a non-branded term, when patients are in the early stages of research



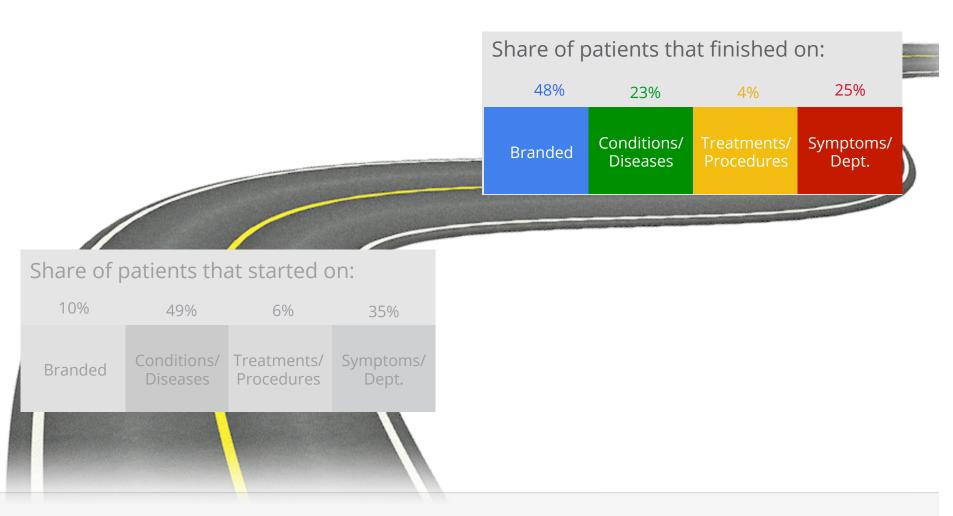


### Search paths continue primarily on non-branded terms towards the moment of conversion



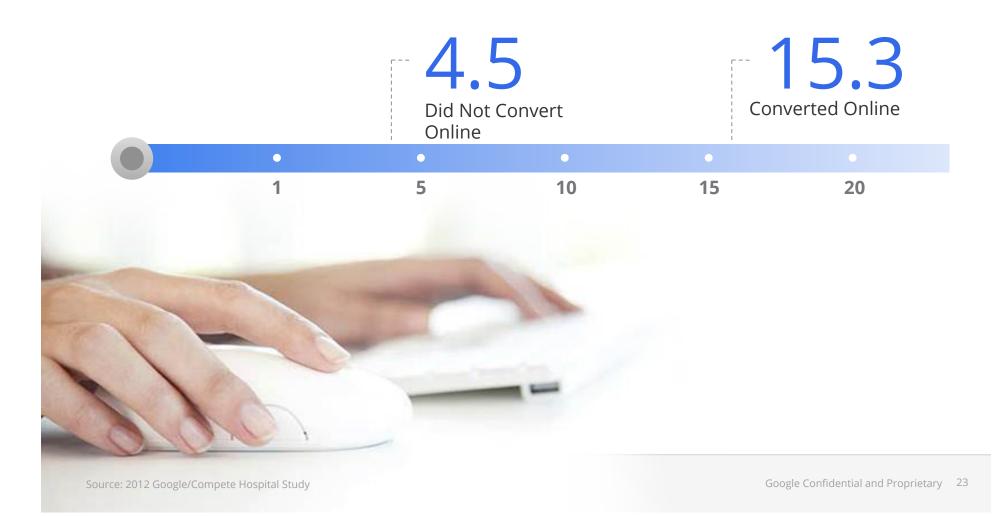


## Nearly half of patients finish their paths with a branded term





# Patients who booked appointments conducted 3x as many searches than those who didn't





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Search impacts brands



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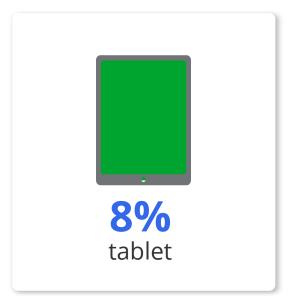
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## Patients are across all devices when researching



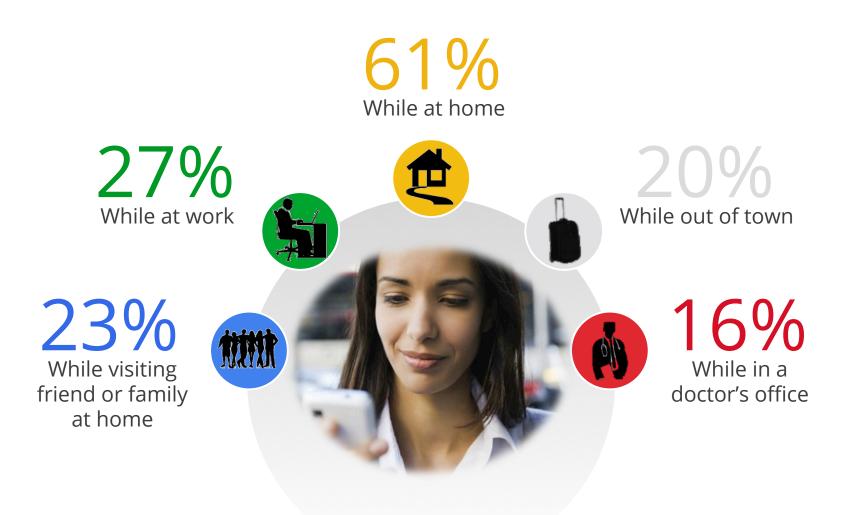




Roughly 1/3 of patients used tablets or mobile devices on a daily basis for research and/or to book appointments



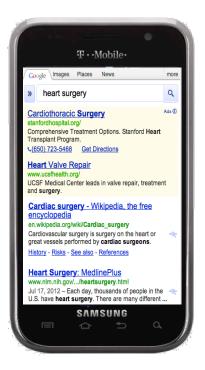
## Mobile is a constant research companion





#### Patient behavior differs across search and sites

#### Mobile **search** used to:



Compare offerings across facilities (26%)

Discover brands I wasn't aware of (18%)

#### Mobile **sites** used to:



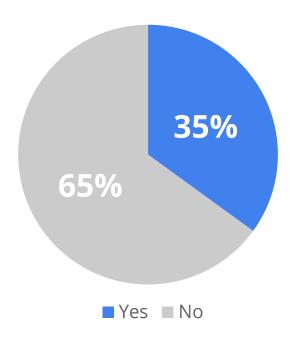
Read reviews of facilities (29%)

Locate a facility for treatment (27%)

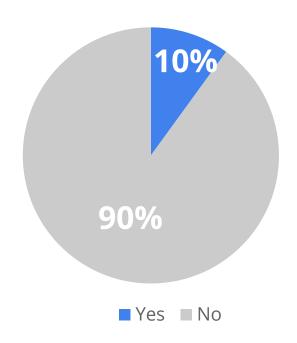


# Patients who used a mobile device to research watch online videos in greater numbers

## **Mobile Device** Researchers



## **Computer Only** Researchers



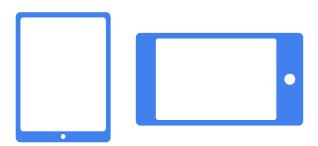


# ... and are also more likely to schedule an appointment

**Mobile Device** Researchers

44%

Scheduled an appointment



**Computer Only** Researchers

34%

Scheduled an appointment





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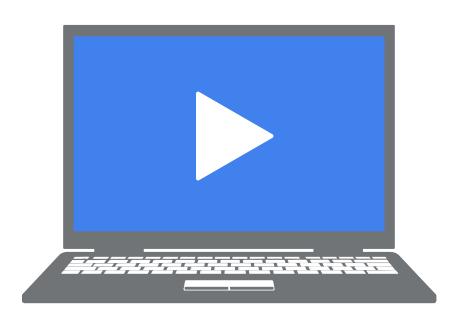


#### Online Video informs and connects

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## Online video is a pivotal component of hospital research



1 in 8 patients watched an online video on:

Hospital Sites (42%)

Health Insurance Information Sites (31%)

Health Information Sites (30%)

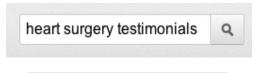
YouTube (29%)

Health Insurance Company Sites (20%)

53% of patients who didn't watch hospital videos were unaware they existed



# Patients seek video reviews and testimonials to learn about hospitals and treatment options





"Faces of Heart Diseases"



"Aortic Valve Surgery: Patient Testimonial"

# What they watch

43% Patient testimonials

32% Patient-generated content

## Why they watch

64% Obtain information about hospitals

56% Understand complicated treatments and procedures



# After watching online videos about a hospital, patients...





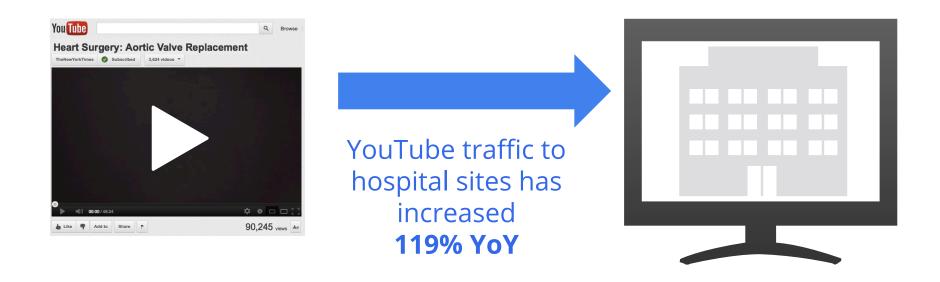








# Online video drives patients to hospital sites, where they are more likely to convert



30% of patients who watched an online video booked an appointment



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## Next questions to answer as a hospital marketer



Have you covered all search paths?



Do you have a mobile strategy?



How are you leveraging your video assets?



# Appendix









# Methodology: Hospital Industry Definitions

Brands	Conversions
Allina	Schedule/Request Appointment
Aurora Health Care	Find a Location
Banner Health Care	Find a Doctor
Baylor Health Care System	Contact Us
Cancer Treatment Centers for America	Refer a Patient
Cleveland Clinic	
Laser Spine Institute	
Mayo Clinic	
M.D. Anderson Cancer Center	
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center	
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital	
University of Pittsburg Medical Center	



## Methodology: Term Buckets

- 1. Hospital Branded: search containing a hospital brand e.g. [hospital branded term]
- 2. Conditions/Diseases: search containing a condition/disease allergies, asthma
- 3. Treatment/Procedures: search containing a treatment or medical procedure query e.g.. hip surgery, liposuction
- 4. Symptoms/Doctors/Depts: search containing symptoms, doctor terms or hospital departments
  - e.g. fever, find a doctor, oncology