



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**Getting a CT Scan never tasted so good:
Woodland Heights offers Barium Contrast Smoothies *in chocolate, berry, vanilla and banana***

Lufkin, TX, September 28, 2009 – Woodland Heights Medical Center is proud to offer new flavored Barium Contrast Smoothies for patients needing any type of abdominal CT scanning procedure. An abdominal CT scan is a noninvasive diagnostic tool that offers physicians a detailed view of the patient's abdomen and pelvis. Drinking the barium contrast prior to the patient's CT scan, provides physicians with clearer images during the scan.

"For patients needing a CT scan, drinking the barium contrast is often the worst part," said Rebecca Petty, Director of Radiology at Woodland Heights Medical Center. "Although patients still need to drink barium, the new smoothies provide a choice of flavors."

The new flavors of barium include chocolate, berry, vanilla and banana. Flavored oral contrasts are available at both Woodland Heights Medical Center and the Diagnostic Center, located at 125 Gaslight Medical Parkway.

"At Woodland Heights, we are committed to exceeding our patients' expectations of care," continued Petty. "The addition of the new flavored barium is just one more way we are working to increase patient satisfaction. These small, but important, details are often the reason Woodland Heights leads the way in patient satisfaction and patient preference. "

In the most recent HCAPS (Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems) survey, release on September 17, 2009, patients rated Woodland Heights Medical Center higher overall than all other area hospitals as well as state and national averages. HCAPS is the nation's only standardized survey that asks recently discharged patients to rate their hospital experience. Also in a recent consumer survey conducted by HealthStream Research, one of the nation's largest healthcare research companies, area residents preferred to receive their orthopedic, emergency room and cardiac care at Woodland Heights Medical Center.

To view the entire HCAPS results, visit Hospital Compare at www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov. For more information about Woodland Heights Medical Center, visit www.woodlandheights.net.

About Woodland Heights Medical Center

Established in 1918, Woodland Heights Medical Center was Lufkin's first hospital. Now, nine decades later, Woodland Heights is recognized throughout Deep East Texas as the leading provider of high quality, innovative health care services. Accommodating a wide range of clinical specialties, Woodland Heights has achieved excellence in key medical and surgical areas including cardiology, pulmonology, neurology, orthopedic surgery, physical medicine/rehabilitation, vascular surgery and obstetrics and gynecology. Woodland Heights also offers a full range of outpatient diagnostic services including advanced imaging, laboratory, outpatient surgery and emergency services. Through its Rehabilitation Center, Woodland Heights offers cardiac rehabilitation, stroke recovery and physical and occupational rehabilitation. Combining modern facilities, leading technology, an exceptional staff and a commitment to the communities it serves, Woodland Heights Medical Center remains at the forefront of quality health care in Deep East Texas.

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