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Woodland Heights Recognized as One of America's Safest Hospitals

Lufkin, TX, January 28, 2010 – On January 26, 2010, Woodland Heights Medical Center was recognized by Forbes Magazine as being among the top five percent of hospitals nationally for preventing mortality and complications. In an article titled "America's Least Deadly Hospitals," Forbes lists hospitals that were identified as having a 29% lower rate of death and 9% lower complication rate. Woodland Heights was the only hospital in Lufkin, Nacogdoches, Livingston and surrounding areas to receive this national recognition.

"We are very proud of this national recognition which underscores our commitment to patient safety and to delivering quality health care," said William Weldon, Chief Executive Officer at Woodland Heights Medical Center. "We know that this commitment to clinical excellence and safety save lives."

According to this article, every year approximately 100,000 people die in hospitals because of preventable complications and hospital acquired infections. Based upon data from 40-million patients nationally, this list identifies hospitals across the country with unusually low mortality and complication rates for 26 different procedures and diagnoses, including treatment for heart failure, stroke, pneumonia and surgical procedures.

"To achieve this recognition, we had to demonstrate outstanding performance across several national quality measures," continued Weldon. "The staff at Woodland Heights is always engaged in continuous quality improvement initiatives and is committed to delivering quality care and exceeding our patients' expectations about their hospital experience. We will continue to enhance our quality improvement efforts through our collaboration with staff and physician partners to help ensure that every person gets the right care at the right time, every time."

To read the entire Forbes Magazine article, visit www.forbes.com. If you would like additional information about Woodland Heights Medical Center, visit them online at www.woodlandheights.net.

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