



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Another first for Woodland Heights

LUFKIN, TEXAS (November 8, 2006)...Woodland Heights Medical Center announces another first in cardiac care for Lufkin. Dr. Vivek Mangla, Cardiologist / Electrophysiologist specializing in heart rhythm disorder, performed the first 3-Dimensional electrical mapping of the heart rhythm disorder in Lufkin today at Woodland Heights.

This latest mapping system gives the physician a real-time image of electrical impulse location and allows them to diagnose a problem in a few heartbeats as opposed to the conventional methods that could take hours. For the patients, this will reduce procedure time and x-ray exposure, according to Dr. Mangla.

Dr. Mangla is pleased to be able to bring such exceptional technology to the area. "We now have the same technology as the medical centers in Houston. As far as electrophysiological testing, we can diagnose any rhythm disorder locally in Lufkin."

Lance Jones, CEO of Woodland Heights, is excited this new state-of-the-art care is being offered to the people of East Texas. "Once again, we are happy to offer a first to the community. The residents of Lufkin and the surrounding area are lucky to have this high level of medical care."

Angie Wagner, Critical Care Director for Woodland Heights, echoes the excitement, "This decreases the need to transfer these patients to the metropolitan hospitals. Woodland Heights is making strides in healthcare technology."

Dr. Mangla looks forward to continuing the excellent tradition of cardiac care offered in Lufkin. He joined The Heart Institute of East Texas, located at 310 Gaslight Blvd. in Lufkin, in August. Office hours are Monday-Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. His office can be reached at (936) 632-8787.

About Woodland Heights Medical Center

Established in 1918, Woodland Heights Medical Center was Lufkin's first hospital. Now, almost nine decades later, Woodland Heights is recognized throughout Deep East Texas as the leading provider of high quality, innovative health care services. In 2006, Woodland Heights Medical Center was named a Distinguished Hospital for clinical excellence—ranking in the nation's top 5% for clinical care. * Recognized for its continued excellence in cardiac care, Woodland Heights is a five star rated hospital for the treatment of heart failure. * Additionally, Woodland Heights is ranked in the nation's top five percent for pulmonary and gastrointestinal care. * Accommodating a wide range of clinical specialties, Woodland Heights has achieved excellence in other key medical and surgical areas including 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.

* *Healthgrades*