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Woodland Heights receives two awards from American Heart Association

Lufkin, TX (September 13, 2011) — Woodland Heights Medical Center recently received two Get With The Guidelines[®] awards from the American Heart Association...the Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award and the Heart Failure Silver Quality Achievement Award. These awards recognize Woodland Heights' commitment and success in implementing higher standards of care.

“With a stroke, time lost is brain lost, and the Get With The Guidelines – Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award addresses the important element of time,” said Cathy Busbee, Chief Nursing Officer for Woodland Heights.

To receive the Get With The Guidelines – Stroke Gold Quality Achievement Award, Woodland Heights demonstrated 85% or better adherence in the Get With The Guidelines – Stroke key measures for 24 or more consecutive months. Similarly, the Heart Failure Silver Quality Achievement Award signifies that Woodland Heights has reached an aggressive goal of treating heart failure patients with at least 85% compliance for one year to core standard levels of care.

“Woodland Heights is dedicated to making our care of heart failure patients among the best in the country. We will continue in our efforts and build off the success of this award by continued implementation of the American Heart Association’s Get With The

Guidelines – Heart Failure program that allowed us to accomplish this goal,” added Busbee.

The goal of the American Heart Association’s Get With The Guidelines program is to help hospitals implement appropriate evidence-based care and protocols that will reduce disability and the number of deaths in these patients. Patients are getting the right care they need when they need it. That’s resulting in improved survival.

Statistics show that each year 795,000 people suffer a new or recurrent stroke and that there are 670,000 new heart failure cases are diagnosed. The time is right for Woodland Heights to continue its focus on improving the quality of stroke and heart failure care.

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. For more information, visit www.woodlandheights.net.

About Get With The Guidelines

Get With The Guidelines[®] is the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association’s hospital-based quality improvement program that empowers healthcare teams to save lives and reduce healthcare costs by helping hospitals follow evidence-based guidelines and recommendations. For more information, visit heart.org/quality.

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Pictured is Peggy Smith, Director of Quality Improvement Initiatives for the American Heart Association (center) with Casey Robertson, CEO of Woodland Heights (left) and Dr. Rick Martin, Woodland Heights’ Chairman of the Board.