



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***Woodland Heights Offering the First Stroke Care Facility in Lufkin***

LUFKIN, TEXAS (July 21, 2006)... Woodland Heights Medical Center is one step closer to becoming a certified Stroke Care facility. Recently, the hospital received a “Get with the Guidelines—Stroke Participating Hospital” certification. According to stroke program coordinator Retta Crim, this is the first step of several to becoming a certified stroke facility by the American Stroke Association. “Currently, Lufkin does not have a facility that has a dedicated stroke program. We are hoping to change that as we aggressively move forward with our certification process, said Crim.

Each year 700,000 Americans suffer strokes. In fact, stroke is the third leading cause of death in the United States. “Developing stroke centers across the country is critical to improving patient outcomes in prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation of stroke.

**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.

**Cutline:**

Woodland Heights Medical Center receives the “Get with the Guidelines—Stroke Participating Hospital” certification from the American Stroke Association. Peggy Grey, Director of the Southeast Texas/Houston chapter of the American Stroke Association, presents the stroke certification to (l to r) Cathy Busbee, Woodland Heights Chief Nursing Officer; Retta Crim, Woodland Heights Stroke Program Coordinator; and Lance Jones, Woodland Heights Chief Executive Officer.