



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Dan Jacobs

Phone: 936-633-7853

Cell: 936-229-0072

[daniel.jacobs@woodlandheights.net](mailto:daniel.jacobs@woodlandheights.net)

### **Woodland Heights Recognized for High Quality of Care**

*Lufkin, TX, August 27, 2009* – Woodland Heights Medical Center has received the Texas Health Care Quality Improvement Award of Excellence from TMF® Health Quality Institute, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Texas. TMF established the awards program in partnership with The Texas Hospital Association, Texas Medical Association, Texas Organization of Rural & Community Hospitals and Texas Osteopathic Medical Association.

Texas Health Care Quality Improvement Awards honor Texas hospitals that are performing quality initiatives aimed at improving outcomes in patient care by recognizing those hospitals that have improved their performance on specific national quality measures.

The awards acknowledge hospitals for improving care related to acute myocardial infarction or AMI (heart attack), heart failure, pneumonia and surgical care. These clinical areas have been designated as national health care priorities by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and The Joint Commission, an independent nonprofit, standards-setting and accrediting body in health care.

The awards recognize hospitals that are active in quality improvement and have made the required improvement on a composite scoring system, called the [Appropriate Care Measure \(ACM\)](#). For acute care hospitals, the ACM consists of 24 quality indicators: eight AMI, four heart failure, seven pneumonia and five surgical care measures. Critical access hospitals used an ACM score based on 11 quality indicators: four heart failure and seven pneumonia measures.

These CMS/Joint Commission priority areas were targeted because they measure care for common, serious health conditions that affect all adult patients. The quality measures—such as an initial antibiotic dose within four hours of admission for patients

with pneumonia—are designed to ensure hospitals provide care consistent with current medical guidelines.

“To achieve this recognition, we had to demonstrate significant improvement across several national quality measures. Our success illustrates our commitment to patient safety and to delivering quality health care” said Bill Weldon, Chief Executive Officer at Woodland Heights Medical Center. “We are very proud of our outstanding level of quality performance, which is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our caring and compassionate staff and physician partners.”

Out of 227 participating Texas hospitals, 27 met the criteria and were presented with the Texas Health Care Quality Improvement Award of Excellence and 66 were presented with the Quality Improvement Achievement Award. Hospitals receiving these awards were recognized at a special ceremony in Austin on August 27.

“As a nonprofit consulting company focused on promoting quality health and health care, TMF is proud to recognize these hospitals for promoting quality improvement activities and their senior management for promoting a quality culture,” said Tom Manley, CEO of TMF Health Quality Institute. “Quality improvement is a complex and demanding process and we thank Woodland Heights Medical Center for their commitment to improving the health of Texans and the efficiency of health care in our state.”

“We know that using proven standards of care can save lives,” continued Weldon. “We will continue to enhance our quality improvement efforts through our collaboration with partners and with TMF Health Quality Institute to help ensure that every person gets the right care at the right time, every time.”

To earn the Award of Excellence, a hospital had to achieve or maintain performance between 90 and 100 percent on the Appropriate Care Measure and to have met all other awards requirements. These included passing validation of three quarters of data (quarters 1-3, 2008), having mortality scores within the projected range and submitting the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems Survey (HCAHPS) data.

For more information on the awards program, see the TMF Health Quality Institute awards Web site at <http://award.tmfhq.net>. If you would like additional information about Woodland Heights Medical Center, visit them online at [www.woodlandheights.net](http://www.woodlandheights.net).

### **About TMF**

TMF Health Quality Institute is an Austin-based nonprofit consulting company focused on promoting quality health and health care through contracts with federal, state and

local governments, as well as private organizations. TMF partners with health care providers in a variety of settings to ensure that every person receives the appropriate care, every time. [www.tmf.org](http://www.tmf.org)

### **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 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 East Texas.

- End -