



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **LSU Hospitals Receive Louisiana Hospital Quality Awards For Sustained Performance and Improvement in Providing Quality Care to Patients**

**Baton Rouge (April 25, 2007)** – Five LSU Health Care Services Division (LSU HCSD) hospitals received the 2006 Louisiana Hospital Quality Award from the Louisiana Health Care Review, Inc. (LHCR), for their commitment to sustained performance and/or improvement in providing quality care to patients.

The Medicare quality improvement organization for Louisiana, the LHCR annually gives the award to hospitals that have sustained excellence in or have exhibited significant, quantifiable improvement in one or more of four clinical areas: acute myocardial infarction (heart attack), heart failure, community-acquired pneumonia, and surgical care.

"The Louisiana Hospital Quality Award for five LSU hospitals is another indicator that LSU hospitals provide quality care that is comparable to any hospital in the state," said Dr. Michael K. Butler, chief medical officer for the LSU Health Care Services Division. "This outside organization reviewed the proven evidenced-based practices that we provide to Medicare patients and found that our hospitals are due this recognition of the highest caliber," he said.

LHCR CEO Gary Curtis echoed Dr. Butler's sentiments. "Louisiana Health Care Review is pleased to recognize hospitals such as those of LSU for achieving measured improvement in patient care," he said. "More importantly, we know that utilizing proven standards of care can save lives, and we applaud the work of these hospital teams in their dedication to quality patient care for the people of their community."

The clinical areas measured for the awards have been designated as national health care priorities by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Hospitals in Louisiana and nationwide have been partnering with their quality improvement organizations to use proven, evidence-based practices to improve care for their patients.

"We know that using proven standards of care can save lives, and we applaud the work of these hospital teams," Curtis said. "As the Medicare quality improvement organization for Louisiana, we continue to work with our partners to ensure that every person gets the right care at the right time every time."

**LSU Bogalusa Medical Center (BMC)** and **University Medical Center (UMC)** in Lafayette received the Gold Level 2006 Louisiana Hospital Quality Award for improvement in three of the four clinical areas. Only 17 Louisiana hospitals received the gold level award. BMC and UMC received the award for improvement in care for acute myocardial infarction, heart failure, and pneumonia.

**Huey P. Long Medical Center (HPLMC)** in Pineville and **Walter Olin Moss Regional Medical Center (WOMRMC)** in Lake Charles received the Silver Level 2006 Louisiana Hospital Quality Award for improvement in two of the four clinical areas. Only 30 Louisiana hospitals received the silver level award. HPLMC and WOMRMC received the award for improvement in care for heart failure and pneumonia.

**Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center** in Houma received the Bronze Level 2006 Louisiana Hospital Quality Award for improvement in care for pneumonia. Only 20 Louisiana hospitals received the bronze level award.

For more information on the Louisiana Health Care Review or the LHCR Hospital Quality Awards visit [www.lhcr.org](http://www.lhcr.org).

The LSU HCSD is the fifth largest public hospital system in the country and is the medical provider for almost 20% of Louisiana's population. It has over 60,000 admissions, 350,000 patient days, 1 million outpatient visits, and over 350,000 emergency department visits. Each year 1700 residents from the LSU School of Medicine, Tulane School of Medicine, and Oschner Health System and 4,000 nurses and allied health students are trained in LSU HCSD facilities.

LSU HCSD is the largest single provider of uncompensated inpatient care in Louisiana and provide over 95% of the health care needed by Louisiana's prisoners. LSU hospitals have an economic impact of over \$1.6 billion in asset business activity, \$918 million in personal earnings, and support over 10,000 jobs.

For more information on LSU HCSD, contact Marvin McGraw, Director of Communications and Media Relations, LSU Health Care Services Division, 225.922.1424 or [mmcgra@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:mmcgra@lsuhsc.edu).