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**For Immediate Release**

**Levine Presents Keynote Address At LSU Meeting  
Experts Examine Patient Centered Care for the Underserved**

**Baton Rouge (July 14, 2008)** – Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals Secretary Alan Levine will present “Looking Forward with the New Administration: Heading toward patient-centered care” as the keynote address of the Summer 2008 LSU Health Care Services Division (HCS) Health Care Effectiveness quarterly meeting.

The meeting will be Tuesday, July 15, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the Holiday Inn Select, 4728 Constitution Avenue, in Baton Rouge.

“Innovations in Patient Centered Care” is the title of the meeting and, besides Secretary Levine, will feature “Patient-Centered Care for Underserved Populations.”

“A primary mission of LSU is to care for underserved populations,” said Dr. Michael K. Butler, acting HCS CEO. “The quarterly meeting will present results LSU has had providing this health care and will examine ways in which LSU continues to improve its health care services.”

The session will include presentations by Carla Dutille, RN, about the University Medical Center Surgical Prophylaxis Program; Donna Pitre, RN, about the Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center’s Emergency Preparedness Program; Diane Angelico, RN, coordinator of the System-wide Patient Satisfaction Program; and Denise Friloux, RN, and Cynthia Eicher, MHS MT(ASCP) SBB, with the Interim LSU Public Hospital, discussing its HIV Rapid Testing Initiative in the Emergency Department.

Besides the feature presentations in the afternoon, the morning breakout sessions will be devoted to disease-specific and improvement-project teams including cancer screening, chronic kidney disease, congestive heart failure, diabetes and diabetes education, HIV, hypertension, obesity, and tobacco cessation.

The LSU Health Care System Health Care Services Division is one of the largest public health care delivery systems in the country. It has over 31,000 admissions, 180,000 patient days, 981,000 outpatient visits, and over 270,000 emergency department visits. Each year 1100 residents and fellows from the LSU and Tulane Schools of Medicine and Ochsner Health System and 2,200 nurses and allied health students from many colleges and universities are trained in LSU facilities.

LSU is the largest single provider of uncompensated inpatient care in Louisiana. LSU HCS hospitals have an economic impact of over \$1.4 billion in asset business activity, \$568 million in personal earnings, and generate over 12,000 jobs.

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