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LSU Featured Cerise and Patient Centered Innovations at Spring 2008 Meeting

LSU Programs Are Models of Care for Underserved Populations

Baton Rouge – Dr. Fred Cerise, LSU System vice president for health affairs and medical education, presented “Charting Our Future: A Vision for the LSU Health System.”

The quarterly meeting was Tuesday, April 15, 2008, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., at the Baton Rouge Marriott.

“LSU hospitals provide quality health care in part because we recognize that health care is always evolving, and we are part of that evolution, implementing best practices and patient centered innovations,” said Dr. Michael Butler, acting CEO of the LSU HCSD.

The meeting, entitled “Lessons Learned in Patient Centered Innovations,” will also present three LSU programs as models of patient-centered care for underserved populations. Dr. Jule Assercq discussed the Earl K. Long Medical Center Asthma Program, Dr. Charles Patout the LSU Diabetic Foot Program, and Dr. Kathleen Willis the Lallie Kemp Regional Medical Center Hypertension Clinic.

“We continually monitor the delivery of health care. As individual programs improve, we identify the changes and incorporate the improvements throughout our hospital system,” said Dr. Michael Kaiser, acting chief medical officer for the LSU HCSD.

For example, the LSU Diabetic Foot Program has created a statewide program with 100 percent access and has provided 133 telemedicine clinics since 2001. Each LSU HCSD hospital has specialists at Earl K. Long Medical Center, where the program is based, on whom they can rely. The program is instrumental in reducing the number of diabetes-related amputations in Louisiana.

In addition, the Earl K. Long Medical Center Asthma Program has shown measurable results in the improvement in the overall quality of life for patients with asthma including a reduction in emergency department visits.

Even the smaller LSU HCSD hospitals reflect this posture of continual improvement. The innovative Lallie Kemp Regional Medical Center Hypertension Clinic in Independence has shown significantly lower blood pressure results for its patients with elevated blood pressure participating in the program.