

For Immediate Release

**University Medical Center Diabetes Education Program
Receives Continued ADA Recognition**

Baton Rouge (May 9, 2008) – The American Diabetes Association (ADA) has granted continued recognition to the University Medical Center (UMC) Diabetes Self-Management Education Program (DSMEP).

The program received ADA recognition after the ADA conducted a site visit and audit at UMC. Two ADA auditors evaluated the UMC program for adherence to national standards for diabetes education. To receive ADA recognition, a program must use methods consistent with research for best practice.

“The recognition by the ADA of the University Medical Center Diabetes Self Management Education Program underscores the effectiveness of our insistence on LSU hospitals following best practices and implementing evidence-based health care,” said Dr. Michael Butler, acting CEO of the LSU Health Care Services Division.

Auditors reviewed UMC DSMEP supporting documents, including outcomes data, patient records, staff qualification records, program curriculum, education materials, quality improvement projects, organizational charts, policies and procedures, and advisory-board-meeting minutes.

Auditors also conducted interviews with program staff and managers.

“The DSMEP exemplifies the UMC tradition of providing quality health care,” said Larry Dorsey, UMC CEO. “The program is one of the many reasons why the people of Acadiana have trusted for decades their health care providers at UMC.”

The ADA monitors adherence to national standards with programs routinely submitting data and with paper and site audits.

Dedicated to helping patients with diabetes acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to cope with the disease, the DSMEP educates patients about diabetes and guides them in making changes in their lives to prevent complications.

The UMC DSMEP includes several components. The DSMEP educator assesses a person’s knowledge and skills on diabetes management and initiates education accordingly. The educator follows up with the patient to facilitate the patient’s progress in the program, to address needs as they arise, and to reinforce education.

The program also includes instruction in the diabetes disease process, nutrition, activity, monitoring, medications, acute and chronic complications, psychological adjustment, and goal setting and problem solving.

Educators document assessment data, learning objectives, behavioral goals, medical information, and recommendations and evaluate outcomes.

The program engages in annual quality improvement projects and regular strategic planning to update and improve the program.

The UMC DSMEP staff includes Collette Dupuis, RN, CDE, program coordinator; Tanya Beller, RN,CDE; Nancy Darrow, RD, CDE; and Mary Kramer, RD. The program is under the direction of the LSU Disease Management Initiative with Tena Turnage, RNC, UMC director of disease management, and Larry Dorsey, UMC CEO.

The LSU Health Care System is one of the largest public health care delivery systems in the country. It has over 60,000 admissions, 350,000 patient days, 1million outpatient visits, and over 350,000 emergency department visits. Each year 1700 residents from the LSU and Tulane Schools of Medicine and Ochsner Health System and 4,000 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 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.

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