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LIFECARE HOSPITALS OF CHESTER COUNTY RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR QUALITY RESPIRATORY CARE

April 8, 2009 (WEST CHESTER, Pa.) –LifeCare Hospitals of Chester County has earned Quality Respiratory Care Recognition (QRCR) from a national program that helps patients and families make informed decisions regarding the quality of respiratory care services provided by hospitals. The QRCR award is given to fewer than 15 percent of hospitals in the United States.

The American Association for Respiratory Care (AACRC) began the recognition program in 2003 in an effort to help consumers identify those facilities using qualified respiratory therapists and industry best practices to provide respiratory care. To earn the QRCR designation, hospitals must adhere to strict safety and quality standards, including:

- All respiratory therapists employed by the hospital to deliver bedside respiratory care services are either legally recognized by the state as competent to do so or hold the certified respiratory therapist or registered respiratory therapist credential.
- Respiratory therapists are available 24 hours a day.
- A doctor of medicine or osteopathy is designated as medical director of respiratory care services.

Additionally, LifeCare Hospitals of Chester County respiratory therapists are certified with Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) training.

Respiratory therapists are specially trained healthcare professionals who work under physician's orders to provide a wide range of respiratory care modalities to people with asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), cystic fibrosis, lung cancer, AIDS and other lung or lung-related conditions.

In addition to a highly trained and skilled respiratory therapy staff, LifeCare Hospitals utilize specialized equipment and respiratory care protocols in order to be more effective in weaning patients from ventilatory dependence earlier than expected.

LifeCare Hospitals specialize in the treatment of medically complex patients who require extended hospitalization. Many of our patients are transferred to our hospital after a stay in an intensive care unit and have often experienced multiple system failures and slow response to traditional medical treatments. To learn more about our facility or to arrange for a tour, please contact us at (484) 826-0408 or visit us on the Web at www.lifecare-hospitals.com.

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