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LIFECARE HOSPITALS OF PLANO RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION IN RESPIRATORY CARE QUALITY FOR SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Feb. 5, 2009 (PLANO, TEXAS) – For the second consecutive year, LifeCare Hospitals of Plano 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. No other long term acute care facilities in the Plano area have received this recognition two years running.

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, all LifeCare Hospitals of Plano 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 breathing treatments and other services 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 of Plano utilizes specialized equipment and respiratory care protocols, and is able to perform both transbronchial biopsies and cryoablation on-site.

LifeCare Hospitals of Plano specializes 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 (214) 473-8822 or visit us on the Web at www.lifecare-hospitals.com.

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