



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Slidell Memorial Hospital Recognized with Louisiana Hospital Quality Award**

Slidell, LA –June 4, 2009—Slidell Memorial Hospital (SMH) has been recognized with the Silver Level 2008 [Louisiana Hospital Quality Award](#), presented by Louisiana Health Care Review, Inc. (LHCR), the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Louisiana. The award was announced at the second Louisiana Health Care Quality Summit hosted by LHCR in Baton Rouge in May. With this award, SMH has been recognized for improving the quality of health care given to its patients, and is one of 93 hospitals in the state to receive the 2008 Louisiana Hospital Quality Award.

The Hospital Quality Award honors Louisiana hospitals that successfully implement quality initiatives directed toward improving patient care in the hospital setting. This is the fourth year these awards have been presented. To be eligible for the award, hospitals must have achieved improvement of at least 25% for each applicable topic or maintain a high level of performance greater than 90% during the 2008 calendar year. Only 18 hospitals received the Silver Award.

The award recognizes those facilities that are actively engaged in improving care in one or more of the following areas:

- Acute Myocardial Infarction (Heart Attack)
- Heart Failure
- Pneumonia
- Surgical Care

The clinical topics measured for the awards have been designated as national health care priorities by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Staff members from SMH have been working with quality improvement specialists from Louisiana Health Care Review, Inc. (LHCR) to use proven, evidence-based practices to improve care for their patients.

“Louisiana Health Care Review is pleased to recognize hospitals such as Slidell Memorial for achieving measured improvement in patient care. More importantly, we know that utilizing proven standards of care can save lives, and we applaud the work of these hospital teams in their dedication to quality patient care for the people of their community,” said LHCR Chief Executive Officer Gary Curtis.

Over the course of the assessed period, SMH saw significant improvement in adherence to national quality standards for treating congestive heart failure (CHF) and surgical care improvement (SCIP.)

“The medical staff and the entire health care team of Slidell Memorial Hospital are dedicated to providing the very best in patient care and our efforts have been enhanced through our quality improvement partnerships with LHCR. We are extremely proud to be a recipient of this distinguished award,” said SMH Chief Executive Officer Bob Hawley.

To learn more, visit the hospital Web site at <http://www.slidellmemorial.org>.

#### **ABOUT LHCR**

The LHCR takes a scientific-based and integrated approach to improving both the quality and efficiency of health care. This expertise has enabled LHCR to develop innovative programs for government organizations and the private sector across the country. This is the fourth year the Hospital Quality Awards have been presented. Additional information about the Louisiana Hospital Quality Awards is available at [www.lhcr.org](http://www.lhcr.org).

#### **ABOUT SMH**

Slidell Memorial Hospital is a full-service 182-bed acute care not-for-profit community hospital located at 1001 Gause Blvd., in the heart of Slidell. During 2008, the hospital provided services to nearly 100,000 patients. Founded in 1959, SMH is the third-largest employer in St. Tammany Parish, employing 1,100 full, part-time and pool clinical and administrative employees. SMH serves as a primary healthcare resource for families in St. Tammany Parish, LA; Pearl River County, MS; and the greater Mississippi Gulf Coast region.

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