

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, July 26, 2011

SPRINGHILL MEDICAL CENTER RANKED # 3 FOR OVERALL PULMONARY SERVICES

Today, Todd Eppler, CEO announced that Springhill Medical Center was ranked number 3 in the state in "Overall Pulmonary Services" by HealthGrades, a Colorado-based company specializing in health research, whose emphasis is on specialized care and survival rates. Willis Knighton Medical Center, Shreveport and Ochsner Clinic Foundation, New Orleans, ranked number 1 and 2, respectively.

"Springhill Medical Center employees have a lot to be proud of", said Eppler. He went on to add, "Special emphasis should be placed on our Respiratory Therapy, Nursing Services, and Physical Therapy along with our Physicians, for without their expertise and training, the hospital would not have achieved such high marks for Overall Pulmonary Services, which includes COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) and Pneumonia".

Springhill Medical Center was one of only 47 hospitals listed statewide, which includes major medical centers. In addition, of the 49 rural hospitals in Louisiana, Springhill Medical Center was one of only four rural facilities recognized by HealthGrades for their significant accomplishments. A complete list of Louisiana hospitals that made the grade can be found in the July/August 2011 Louisiana Life Magazine.

HealthGrades rates hospitals on procedures and diagnoses and not on amenities. For each hospital, HealthGrades rated different procedures or diagnoses using risk adjustment methodologies (except maternity care and women's health). Each of the procedures or diagnoses was rated in one or more categories:

- Survival in-hospital and survival after discharge (based upon mortality outcomes)
- Avoiding complications (based upon complication outcomes)

HealthGrades risk adjusted the data to ensure a fair comparison between and among hospitals. Each hospital received one of the following ratings for each medical issue:

Best - Actual performance was better than expected.

Average - Actual performance was as expected.

Poor - Actual performance was worse than expected.

HealthGrades quality ratings are 2010-11 ratings, derived from Medicare inpatient data from the MedPAR database (purchased from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, 2007 through 2009 data). Hospitals only receive ratings for procedures or diagnoses if they treat at least 30 cases over a three-year period, including at least five in the most recent year of data.

Springhill Medical Center is a 58-bed, stand-alone, not-for-profit hospital employing 220 employees, operating two rural health clinics in Webster Parish, and is governed by a local board of directors, utilizing the management services of Willis Knighton Health Systems. For more information on services at Springhill Medical Center, visit www.smccare.com.

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