

MEDIA RELEASE - NORTH TEXAS HOSPITAL

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wound Care Center Recognized for Healing Wounds and Changing Lives

Denton, TX...April 12, 2011 – North Texas Hospital wishes to announce the recognition of the Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine at North Texas Hospital for earning the Diversified Clinical Services Center of Distinction Award and the Robert A. Warriner III, M.D. Award for Center of Excellence. The Center of Distinction is awarded for meeting/exceeding quality outcome measures of Healing Rate, Patient Satisfaction and Outliers. This award is even more meaningful this year as the benchmarks were raised. The Center was noted for achieving the benchmarks for 24 consecutive months in 2009 and 2010 resulting in the Robert A. Warriner III, M.D. Award for Center of Excellence. This prestigious honor was awarded by the Center's partner in wound healing, Diversified Clinical Services.

This center is one of 83 in the country to receive the Center of Distinction award this year, and one of 42 who also received the Robert A. Warriner III, M.D., Center of Excellence award in recognition of receiving two consecutive years as a Center of Distinction.

The Wound Care Center has achieved success in treating and curing chronic or non-healing wounds and in providing excellent care to over 1600 patients since the Center's opening in September, 2006.

North Texas Hospital CEO, Judith Schiros commended the team, "On continually and consistently exceeding the bar in the quality of services to our patients at the Wound Care Center".

The Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine chose to partner with DCS to ensure quality in providing specialized treatments to the North Texas communities. Many people suffer from chronic and non-healing wounds—a serious disorder that can lead to amputation of limbs and dramatically impair quality of life and can be associated with inadequate circulation, poorly functioning veins, and immobility; non-healing wounds occur most frequently in the elderly and in people with diabetes and other diseases. The number of people suffering from these wounds is sharply rising as the nation ages and chronic diseases increase.

Non-healing wounds of the diabetic foot are considered one of the most significant complications of diabetes, representing a major worldwide medical, social, and economic burden that greatly affects patient quality of life. Almost 24 million Americans—one in every 12, are diabetic and the disease is causing widespread disability and death at an epidemic pace, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Of those with diabetes, 6.5 million are estimated to suffer with chronic or non-healing wounds.

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The Center generally admits these patients within 48-72 hours, working with referring physicians to determine the most effective course of treatment. This outpatient comprehensive service will offer advanced healing therapies, often unavailable in primary care offices. These services use an interdisciplinary approach to treatment involving a variety of therapies and techniques, including debridement, hyperbaric oxygen therapy, bio-engineered skin substitutes, dressing selection, special shoes, and patient education. When wounds persist and resist conventional treatment, a specialized approach is required for healing.

The Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine effectively utilizes hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) to treat many patients that otherwise may not have healed. Systemic HBOT therapy has been used to assist wound healing for more than 40 years, and is used as an adjunctive treatment for problematic, non-healing wounds that meet specific criteria. It is expected that 10-20% of the wound care cases will meet those criteria. This treatment will improve the already successful clinical results of the Center.

“We’re honored, and privileged to be part of a great collaborative effort between the hospital and Diversified Clinical Services. Together, we are able to heal patients in our community, getting them get back to living happy, healthier lives” said Kathie Roberts, Program Director.

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About The Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine

The Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine opened on September 13, 2006. They are located in the North Texas Professional Building at 2817 South Mayhill Road, Suite 230, Denton, TX. They presently have 8 exam rooms and 4 state of the art hyperbaric chambers with a highly trained team to take care of the patients they serve. Visit www.NorthTexasHospital.com for more information.



About Diversified Clinical Services

Diversified Clinical Services (DCS), located in Jacksonville, Florida, is the world’s largest wound care management company with over 300 hospital partners delivering excellent evidence-based care to patients with chronic wounds. DCS has been the leader in wound care for over 20 years, offering the most advanced modalities—including adjunctive hyperbaric oxygen therapy. Providing outstanding wound care is DCS’ entire focus. Our leaders are internationally recognized experts in wound care, who research, teach, and guide quality-improvement initiatives such as DCS’ Clinical Practice Guidelines. Based on our experience of treating more than two million wounds, DCS Centers achieve excellent outcomes as measured by our i-heal® clinical management system, including a high rate of limb salvage, an 95% heal rate, median days-to-heal of 31, and over 95% patient satisfaction. Together, we heal wounds and improve patients’ lives.