



**For Immediate Release**

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## **NEW OWNERSHIP FOR NATIONALLY-RANKED NORTHSHORE HEART HOSPITAL**

*(New Owner of Louisiana Medical Center & Heart Hospital pledges integrated delivery system)*

**Lacombe, LA (October 3, 2011)** – Louisiana Medical Center & Heart Hospital of Lacombe, LA, one of the region’s premier cardiovascular facilities, announced today that the hospital is being sold to a Nashville healthcare company. The hospital, which focuses on cardiovascular disease, spine and adult general acute care, has treated nearly 100,000 patients since opening in 2003.

With 137 privately licensed beds, Louisiana Medical Center & Heart Hospital has been recognized by Thomson Reuters as a Top 100 Cardiovascular Care Hospital for successful outcomes and service excellence.

Cardiovascular Care Group (CCG) entered into a purchase agreement today with the current owners, a group of physician investors and MedCath, Inc., a publicly traded company. The details of the transaction were not disclosed.

CCG is a physician-driven company that partners with cardiovascular physicians to address some of the fundamental problems in delivery of care for patients with cardiovascular disease. Cardiovascular Care Group is committed to significant capital investments to upgrade clinical and IT systems so that Louisiana Medical Center & Heart Hospital remains a cardiovascular Center of Excellence.

Since opening in February 2003, more than 2,000 heart surgeries and more than 12,000 cath lab procedures have been performed. In 2009 the hospital expanded with the completion of a new 110,000 square foot patient tower and a 45,000 square foot medical office building. Louisiana Medical Center & Heart Hospital has the largest Emergency Room on the Northshore with 20 beds and is the only chest pain accredited hospital in the region. Louisiana Medical Center & Heart Hospital serves patients from St. Tammany, Washington, and Tangipahoa Parishes in Louisiana, and regionally from southern Mississippi and Gulf Coast counties.

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