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PALMETTO GENERAL HOSPITAL APPOINTS NEW STROKE COORDINATOR

MIAMI, Fla. –March 18, 2011 – Palmetto General Hospital is proud to announce the appointment of Lynne Dittmar, R.N. as the hospital’s new stroke coordinator. In this role, Dittmar will lead the development of Palmetto General Hospital’s stroke program and facilitate the hospital’s policies and procedures to achieve the best possible health outcomes in the care of stroke patients. This includes coordinating with medical staff for the maintenance and growth of the program; monitoring and evaluating program outcomes; consulting with the healthcare team and patients during hospitalization; and providing both patient and staff with education opportunities.

“Lynne Dittmar is an experienced nurse leader and she will be an important asset to our vascular program as we continuously strive to bring our stroke care to the next level,” said CEO Ana Mederos.

Palmetto General Hospital offers a comprehensive multi-specialty vascular program that is dedicated and devoted to vascular health, early diagnosis of vascular disease and advanced surgical treatment. High quality health services in vascular health, cardiovascular risk reduction, vascular medicine, management of PAD (peripheral artery disease), vein health, vascular surgery, endovascular and minimally invasive therapies, vascular diagnostics and wound care are provided by an experienced team of physicians, nurses and support staff. Free patient education and vascular screenings are also offered to the community throughout the year.

About Palmetto General Hospital

Palmetto General Hospital, part of Tenet's Miami-Dade/Broward Health Network, is a 360-bed acute-care hospital located at 2001 West 68th Street in Hialeah, Florida. The hospital has served the medical and health care needs of Northwest Miami-Dade and Southwest Broward counties for 40 years and is fully accredited by The Joint Commission, the nation's oldest and largest hospital accreditation agency.

Palmetto General Hospital offers a broad range of services, including adult and pediatric emergency rooms; maternity; mental health; cancer care; diagnostic imaging; hyperbaric treatment; wound care; a sleep disorders center; a medical and surgical cardiac program; robotics program and a bariatric program that is a designated a Center of Excellence by the American Society for Bariatric Surgery (2006-2010) and a Bariatric Center of Excellence by the American College of Surgeons (2008-2011).

For the last four consecutive years (2007-2011), Palmetto General Hospital's bariatric program earned the Bariatric Surgery Excellence Award™ from HealthGrades, the nation's leading health care quality ratings company. The hospital was also ranked among the top 5 percent in the nation for bariatric surgery and maintained a 5-star rating for overall bariatric surgery by HealthGrades.

In addition, the hospital offers award-winning heart and stroke care. In 2011, HealthGrades ranked Palmetto General Hospital among the top 10 percent of hospitals in Florida for cardiac surgery, and awarded the hospital with a 5-star rating for both heart valve-replacement surgery (2011) and stroke care (2003-2011). Palmetto General Hospital also received the 2010 American Heart Association Get With the Guidelines Gold Performance Achievement Award.

For more information about Palmetto General Hospital, please call 305-823-5000 or visit www.palmettogeneral.com.

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