

BROOKS ANNOUNCES CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., *April 11, 2007* – In the past year, Brooks has taken major strides toward achieving our goal of creating a new structure with an emphasis on world-class, specialized patient care. We have adopted a programmatic structure, designed around five Centers of Excellence: stroke, brain injury, orthopedics, spinal cord injury and pediatrics. As a part of this process, we have created a team of highly specialized doctors to act as Medical Directors for the Centers of Excellence (COE). The Medical Directors, together with our Program Directors, are responsible for planning, administering, organizing and controlling the management and delivery of the product line within the hospital. They are charged with identifying and developing opportunities for continuity of services through outpatient care and post-discharge.

Our team of doctors is led by our long-time Chief Medical Officer, Deborah Stewart, M.D. Dr. Jeff Johns, Associate Medical Director of the entire Hospital and Medical Director of our Spinal Cord Injury COE. Dr. Johns is board certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and has sub-specialty certification in Spinal Cord Injury Medicine. He has co-authored more than 15 peer reviewed-articles in journals such as *Journal of Spinal Cord Medicine*, *Muscle and Nerve*, *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation* and *Topics in Spinal Cord Injury*. Dr. Johns is one of only a few spinal cord experts currently practicing in Florida.

In the past months, Brooks has also recruited Dr. Trevor Paris as Medical Director of the Stroke COE and Dr. Louise Spierre as Medical Director of the Brain Injury COE and Co-Medical Director of the Pediatric COE. Both Drs. Paris and Spierre are published experts in their fields, and Brooks is pleased to bring them into our organization.

These doctors—along with Dr. Deborah Stewart, Brooks Chief Medical Officer, and Dr. Kerry Maher, Admitting Medical Director—make up the newly created Brooks Rehabilitation Specialist Group. This group is a physician practice that operates out of Suite 103 in the Health Care Plaza, located just moments from Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital on University Blvd. The practice was formed to provide another step in the continuum of care Brooks provides for our patients.

Our official conversion to Program Management took place at the end of 2006, allowing us to start 2007 with our programmatic structure fully in place. Patients were relocated to central locations based on diagnosis, and Brooks is currently in the process of creating more patient rooms. By restructuring our hospital, recruiting experts in each area of treatment and creating a physician practice, we guarantee that our patients receive the best possible care at every step of their rehabilitation.

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Serving the community for more than 35 years, Brooks has a long-standing tradition of providing quality inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation care to Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia. Our 143-bed acute physical rehab hospital is unique in the region with a highly trained staff and an unmatched range of services. We have an extensive network of outpatient centers as well as a cutting-edge research facility which allow us to

provide the best continuum of care possible to the communities we serve. As a non-profit health system, we are deeply dedicated to meeting the needs and improving the health of our community. Brooks is more than rehabilitation. It's about being you again.