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**Texas Spine & Joint Hospital JOINS IHI'S 5 MILLION LIVES CAMPAIGN
TO REDUCE MEDICAL HARM THROUGHOUT THE NATION**

IHI Estimates that 15 Million Incidents of Patient Harm Occur in U.S. Hospitals Each Year

July 27, 2007 Texas Spine & Joint Hospital today announced that it has joined the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's 5 Million Lives Campaign, a national campaign to dramatically reduce incidents of medical harm in U.S. hospitals. The 5 Million Lives Campaign asks hospitals to improve the care they provide in order to protect patients from five million incidents of medical harm over a 24-month period, ending December 9, 2008. It represents a continuation of the largest improvement effort undertaken in recent history by the health care industry.

The Campaign was formally unveiled on December 12, 2006 and has been endorsed by the American Hospital Association (AHA), the American Nurses Association (ANA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Joint Commission.

The 5 Million Lives Campaign builds upon the success of the 100,000 Lives Campaign in which 3100 participating facilities (representing 75% of U.S. hospital beds,) avoided unnecessary deaths by implementing evidence-based interventions such as rapid response teams, infection prevention practices and medication safety practices. "TSJH has always used the highest standard in patient safety. Our infection rate is consistently below 1% and we are glad to be able to become a part of a successful national campaign to promote patient safety," said Tony Wahl, CEO for Texas Spine & Joint Hospital.

Susan Orr, infection control nurse for Texas Spine & Joint Hospital says, "We have been practicing the safety methods of prevention and tracking outlined by IHI since our doors opened in 2002. Joining the 5 million lives campaign gives us the opportunity to share our methods with other participants and learn from them as well."

IHI estimates that 15 million incidents of medical harm occur in U.S. hospitals each year. This estimate of overall national harm is based on IHI's extensive experience in studying injury rates in hospitals, which reveals that between 40 to 50 incidents of harm occur for every 100 hospital admissions. With 37 million admissions in the United States each year (according to the AHA's National Hospital Survey for 2005) this equates to approximately 15 million harm events annually - or 40,000 incidents of harm in U.S. hospitals every day.

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The Institute for Healthcare Improvement (www.ih.org) is a not-for-profit organization leading the improvement of health care throughout the world. Founded in 1991 and based in Cambridge, MA, IHI is a catalyst for change, cultivating innovative concepts for improving patient care and implementing programs for putting those ideas into action. Thousands of health care providers, including many of the finest hospitals in the world, participate in IHI's groundbreaking work.