



Huntsville Memorial Hospital

an affiliate of
Memorial Hermann Healthcare System

For Immediate Release

Wii at HMH celebrate National Physical Therapy Month

HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS (October 24, 2008) – Celebrating National Physical Therapy Month, The HMH Center for Rehabilitation is all fun and games with a special community-wide game day featuring the uses of the Nintendo Wii game system in physical therapy. On display October 28 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., staff and visitors are invited to try out the game system with contests and prizes in the morning outside the HMH cafeteria and in the afternoon at the Center for Rehab.

The Nintendo Wii game system is being used widely at facilities to add challenge and novelty to Physical and Occupational Therapy treatment and is now widely referenced in a variety of professional and mainstream magazines and newspapers.

“HMH has added this unique treatment modality as part of its commitment to providing the best and most current rehabilitation techniques available,” said Director of the Center for Rehab Margaret Gulledge, OTR. “The virtual reality games that make up the Wii provide an opportunity for more challenging activities to our patients. This is especially true in using the simulated sports activities and Wii Fit.”

The Wii fit can be used to work on sitting and standing balance for a variety of patient levels, explained Colleen Spencer, HMH physical therapist.

The diversity of Wii games is also used to add fun, and distraction from what can be repetitive. The scorekeeping function of the games allows patients to track and see their progress.

The Wii is appealing to people of all ages and is currently being enjoyed in a local retirement home by seniors and by teenagers at the local YMCA. HMH expects this therapy tool to appeal to a variety of patients as well.

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About Huntsville Memorial Hospital

Since 1927, Huntsville Memorial Hospital has provided benevolent and charitable health care services, setting the standard for quality, proficient health care for the residents of Walker County and the surrounding communities. At Huntsville Memorial, we have great people who are passionate about your health. We have outstanding physicians, motivated leadership, and compassionate staff. We are your friends and neighbors – dedicated to excellence in everything we do – right here at home.

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