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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CHRISTUS Good Shepherd Medical Center – *Longview* Wound Healing Center
Recognized with National Award for Clinical Excellence**

Longview, Texas (April 21, 2017) – The Byron Cook, MD, Center for Advanced Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine at CHRISTUS Good Shepherd Medical Center - *Longview* has been recognized with a national award for clinical excellence.

The wound healing center achieved outstanding clinical outcomes for 12 consecutive months, including patient satisfaction higher than 92 percent, and a wound healing rate of at least 91 percent in less than 31 median days. Out of 630 Centers eligible for the Center of Distinction award, 334 achieved this honor in 2017.

Dr. Larry Verfurth, Market Chief Medical Officer, CHRISTUS Good Shepherd Health System, said we are extremely proud of the recognition we've received from Healogics. The award and the statistics behind it underscore the message that our patients are receiving an extremely high level of care.

Difficult-to-heal wounds are often associated with chronic conditions like diabetes or poor circulation and can prevent people from exercising or even leaving the home. Healing wounds can have a dramatic impact on quality of life and at the same time help prevent infections that can lead to amputations.

Dr. Barbara Sigal, Medical Director of the wound center, said Healogics has developed algorithms that help standardize treatment of different kinds of wounds to speed up the healing process.

A strong staff of experienced nurses and excellent teamwork at every level drives a consistent approach to the healing process, said Sigal. "They see the same people every week and they get a very personalized type of care. The continuity of care is a big reason that patients like coming back."

The Byron Cook, MD, Center for Advanced Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine is a member of the Healogics network of nearly 800 Centers, with access to benchmarking data and proven experience

treating approximately 2.5 million chronic wounds. CHRISTUS Good Shepherd Medical Center – *Longview's* wound center offers highly specialized wound care to patients suffering from diabetic ulcers, pressure ulcers, infections and other chronic wounds which have not healed in a reasonable amount of time. Some of the leading-edge treatments offered at the center include negative pressure wound therapy, debridement, application of cellular-based tissue or skin substitutes to the wound, offloading or total contact casts and hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

For more information about the wound healing center, please call (903) 315-3880.

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