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## **Dialog Medical Announces New Contract with St. Luke's Episcopal Health System**

*St. Luke's selects Dialog Medical's iMedConsent™ application to standardize and automate the informed consent process, leading to improved patient quality of care*

ATLANTA, November 29, 2005 — Dialog Medical, the leading provider of informed consent and patient education systems for hospitals and physician practices, today announced a new contract for its iMedConsent application with St. Luke's Episcopal Health System. Installation of the informed consent application at the Texas Heart Institute, at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital and at St. Luke's Community Medical Center—The Woodlands will be completed by early next year.

iMedConsent is designed to help hospitals and physician practices standardize patient communication surrounding the informed consent process. The application includes procedure-specific consent forms for most medical and surgical procedures; patient education documents for thousands of diagnoses and treatments; and an extensive anatomical image gallery that allows the physician to annotate images and simplify complex topics for the patient. In addition, iMedConsent automates the completion of patient documentation ranging from HIPAA disclosures to advance directives, including the digital capture of signatures, paperless storage of signed documents and electronic notation in the patient's medical record.

"We believe that a standardized and automated approach to informed consent will enhance patient safety and quality of care by facilitating better communication between physicians and patients about conditions, treatment alternatives, and the benefits and risks of a procedure," said Kay Carr, senior vice president and CIO of St. Luke's Episcopal Health System. "In addition, we expect that the use of iMedConsent will help us lower administrative costs through the reduction of document scanning and elimination of operating room delays that take place when we have to resolve issues with missing or incomplete informed consent documents."

"The critical impact that the informed consent process has on patient safety and quality of care has been recognized by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the National Quality Forum and The Leapfrog Group," said Michael Burke, president of Dialog Medical. "We applaud St. Luke's decision to standardize and automate the informed consent process and look forward to helping them meet and exceed their expectations for improving the quality of care for their patients."

### **About Dialog Medical**

Dialog Medical is a leading provider of informed consent and patient education systems for hospitals and physician practices. The company's iMedConsent™ application is currently used by more than 15,000 physicians in hospitals and physician practices nationwide. For more information on Dialog Medical and its products, visit [www.dialogmedical.com](http://www.dialogmedical.com).

### **About St. Luke's Episcopal Health System**

St. Luke's Episcopal Health System comprises the flagship St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital in the Texas Medical Center, founded in 1954 by the Episcopal Diocese of Texas; St. Luke's Community Medical Center—The Woodlands, opened in 2003; St. Luke's Episcopal Health Charities, a charity devoted to assessing and enhancing community health, especially among the underserved; and Kelsey-Seybold Management, LLP, overseeing 21 area clinic locations. St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital is home to the

Texas Heart<sup>®</sup> Institute, founded in 1962 by Denton A. Cooley, MD, and consistently ranked among the top 10 cardiology and heart surgery centers in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*. Affiliated with several nursing schools and two medical schools, St. Luke's serves as a primary private adult teaching hospital for Baylor College of Medicine. St. Luke's was the first hospital in Texas named a Magnet hospital for nursing excellence, and the Health System has been recognized by *FORTUNE* as among "100 Best Companies to Work for" (2002, 2004 and 2005) and by *Houston Business Journal* as a top employer in Houston for three consecutive years.

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