



## Health Sciences Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*New Orleans, LA* – The LSU Health New Orleans Schools of Nursing and Dentistry have collaborated to open the LSU Health New Orleans Dental & Medical Primary Care Clinic. The clinic was designed for patients to be checked by both a nurse practitioner and a dentist in the same first visit so that their total health can be assessed. We believe this is one of the few clinics in the country using this approach. The clinic, located on the campus of the LSU Health New Orleans School of Dentistry at 1100 Florida Avenue, offers adults primary care medical and dental services provided by LSU Health New Orleans nurse practitioners and dentists.

The clinic also provides a unique educational opportunity; it is an interprofessional clinic. Interprofessional education is when students from more than one health profession learn about, from and with each other as members of a health care team. This approach increases knowledge about and understanding of complimentary health disciplines, which significantly benefits patients through improved outcomes.

“As Louisiana’s flagship and most comprehensive health professions university, LSU Health New Orleans has been on the leading edge of this trend in academic health, and we continue to develop and strengthen our singular interprofessional education capabilities in the state,” notes Dr. Larry Hollier, LSU Health New Orleans Chancellor. “LSU Health New Orleans nursing and dental students and residents will get valuable experience learning to work as an integrated health care team.”

The clinic is funded by a Health Resources and Services Administration grant to the LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing to bring primary care services to underserved areas.

“This clinical environment will provide an opportunity to deliver integrated, interprofessional dental and primary care services within a framework of health promotion and disease prevention to addresses the patient’s oral-systemic health needs,” said Dr. Demetrius Porche, Dean of the LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing.

The LSU Health New Orleans Dental and Medical Primary Care Clinic is open Tuesday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., and medical services are available those days. As dental

services are offered ONLY on Tuesdays and Wednesdays currently, patients visiting the clinic for the first time are encouraged to make their initial appointment on a Tuesday or Wednesday. The appointment number is 504-412-1680, although walk-ins are welcome.

“Interprofessional education (IPE) has become a critical component of the curriculum in all areas of health care,” said Dr. Henry Gremillion, Dean of the LSU Health New Orleans School of Dentistry. “The LSU Health Primary Dental and Medical Primary Care Clinic provides a most important expansion of IPE into the Interprofessional Collaborative Care arena, which will certainly have a very positive impact on treatment outcomes.”

The LSU Health New Orleans Foundation funded construction of the clinic building, and the clinic is part of the LSU Healthcare Network, the clinic practice of LSU Health New Orleans faculty.

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*LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans educates Louisiana’s health care professionals. The state’s health university leader, LSU Health New Orleans includes a School of Medicine, the state’s only School of Dentistry, Louisiana’s only public School of Public Health, and Schools of Allied Health Professions, Nursing, and Graduate Studies. LSU Health New Orleans faculty take care of patients in public and private hospitals and clinics throughout the region. In the vanguard of biosciences research in a number of areas in a worldwide arena, the LSU Health New Orleans research enterprise generates jobs and enormous economic impact. LSU Health New Orleans faculty have made lifesaving discoveries and continue to work to prevent, advance treatment, or cure disease. To learn more, visit <http://www.lsuhs.edu>, <http://www.twitter.com/LSUHealthNO> or <http://www.facebook.com/LSUHSC>.*

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