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DFWHC Foundation and Baylor to evaluate VTE prevention

With the per-patient rate difficult to improve, the continued occurrence of Venous thromboembolism (VTE), a potentially fatal condition where a vein is blocked by a blood clot or tumor cells, concerns Dallas-Fort Worth area hospitals. Oftentimes caused by poor circulation and considered one of the most important problems facing patients today, a new research project has been paid for by sanofi-aventis U.S. with an amount of \$199,072 to the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council Education and Research Foundation (DFWHC Foundation) and Baylor Health Care System to conduct a program to evaluate prevention programs at two local hospitals in 2010.

“We appreciate sanofi-aventis’s efforts in supporting this important project,” said Kristin Jenkins, president of the DFWHC Foundation. “VTE is a major concern for hospitals and this project should help determine the effectiveness of programs in use and make suggestions about alternative approaches.”

The project will assess the effectiveness of diagnosis, preventive care, number of VTEs and financial charges for extended lengths of stay and readmissions. The study began Jan. 28 and is being conducted by a team of researchers from the DFWHC Foundation and Baylor. It will conclude in July, with results to be presented to local hospitals to determine the effectiveness of quality improvement programs.

Sanofi-aventis U.S. is an affiliate of sanofi-aventis, a leading global pharmaceutical company that discovers, develops and distributes therapeutic solutions to help improve the lives of patients. Sanofi-aventis is listed in Paris (Euronext: SAN) and in New York (NYSE: SNY).

Baylor Health Care System is a faith-based, not-for-profit health care provider serving nearly 1.4 million patients through its network of 212 access points. Baylor University Medical Center, a major research and teaching facility for the Southwest, anchors the Baylor network which includes a total of 25 hospitals. More than 4,500 physicians comprise the current medical staff. Known for its quality initiatives, Baylor became the first health care system in the State of Texas to receive the National Quality Healthcare Award from the National Quality Forum. For more information, visit BaylorHealth.com.

The DFWHC Foundation is a non-profit 501c3 public charity. Headquartered in Irving, TX, its mission is to continually improve the community’s health by promoting safe, high quality, cost effective, accessible and equitable healthcare by strengthening the healthcare workforce through education, research and collaboration.

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Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council Education and Research Foundation