

newsrelease



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Tenet Agrees to Sell Gulf Coast Medical Center to HMA

DALLAS – April 17, 2006 – Tenet Healthcare Corporation (NYSE: THC) announced today that a company subsidiary has signed a definitive agreement to sell 189-bed Gulf Coast Medical Center in Biloxi, Miss., to Health Management Associates, Inc. (NYSE: HMA).

Net after-tax proceeds, including the liquidation of working capital, are estimated to be approximately \$16 million. The company said it expects to use the proceeds for general corporate purposes. Gulf Coast Medical Center is Tenet's only hospital in Mississippi.

The company said the devastating impact of last summer's hurricanes had caused it to reevaluate its operations in Mississippi, mainly as a result of continuing uncertainty about the long-term health care needs of the area. Tenet said it decided that turning over the hospital to an operator with other significant health care operations in the area would be in the best interests of the community and would speed the return of services. HMA operates Biloxi Regional Medical Center in Biloxi.

Under the agreement, HMA has committed to offer employment to substantially all Gulf Coast Medical Center employees in good standing. The sale, which is expected to be completed by May 31, is subject to customary regulatory approvals.

HMA owns and operates general acute care hospitals in non-urban communities located throughout the United States. Upon completion of its previously announced transaction to acquire the 83-bed Cleveland Clinic Naples Hospital in Naples, Fla., HMA will operate 61 hospitals in 16 states with approximately 8,628 licensed beds.

Tenet Healthcare Corporation, through its subsidiaries, owns and operates acute care hospitals and related health care services. Tenet's hospitals aim to provide the best possible care to every patient who comes through their doors, with a clear focus on quality and service. Tenet can be found on the World Wide Web at www.tenethealth.com.

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Some of the statements in this release may constitute forward-looking statements. Such statements are based on our current expectations and could be affected by numerous factors and are subject to various risks and uncertainties discussed in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended Dec. 31, 2005, our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and periodic reports on Form 8-K. Do not rely on any forward-looking statement, as we cannot predict or control many of the factors that ultimately may affect our ability to achieve the results estimated. We make no promise to update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of changes in underlying factors, new information, future events or otherwise.