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An Interview with Dr. Paul H. Chu, The Newly Elected President of the Medical Board at Pacific Alliance Medical Center

LOS ANGELES, CA (May 15, 2008) *Paul H. Chu M.D. is a recognized healthcare leader in the Chinese and medical community, and considered an expert in the field of osteoporosis, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, and congestive heart failure. He was recently elected as President of the Medical Board at Pacific Alliance Medical Center, the physician governance body that provides oversight and leadership to the hospital's 240 staff physicians.*

Born in Taiwan, Dr. Chu speaks 4 Chinese dialects as well as Spanish and English. He completed his undergraduate education at University of California, Riverside and medical school at The Chicago Medical School, Chicago, Illinois. Trained at UCLA, he is Board Certified in Internal Medicine and maintains medical offices in Chinatown.

Dr. Chu resides with his wife and two daughters in Pasadena.

In this interview he talks about his goals as President of the Medical Staff Board and reveals how Pacific Alliance Medical Center has risen to the top, earning numerous accolades including the prestigious Top 100 Hospitals Thomson Award®.

Question: As president of the medical board at Pacific Alliance Medical Center what is your main responsibility?

Dr. Paul H. Chu: *Pacific Alliance Medical Center (PAMC) has 244 active physicians on staff. These are physicians who specialize in a number of medical fields and treat patients at the hospital. As chief of the medical board, my job is primarily to understand and represent the needs of our physicians so that they can continue to provide excellent care to our patients. I work very closely with hospital administration and nursing leaders, establishing processes and systems with a focus on giving our patients an exceptional experience at every level of care.*

Question: What are your goals in this next year?

Dr. Paul H. Chu: *I have three goals: First, to continue to improve the quality of medical care delivered at PAMC that translates into high patient satisfaction; second, to encourage other physicians and specialists to join the staff at PAMC; and third, to increase awareness about the excellent medical care and community services PAMC provides to families in our community. We have some of the finest physicians and healthcare professionals assembled here, and we want everyone to know it.*

Question: What would you like the community to know about PAMC?

Dr. Paul H. Chu: That PAMC is ranked among the best hospitals in the country by healthcare organizations that monitor and rate U.S. hospitals. This is very significant because it's not us saying, "PAMC is great." It's outside agencies, organizations that evaluate hospitals everyday, saying, "PAMC is great." We are honored to be recognized among the best because it means our patients can feel confident that PAMC follows the highest standards when it comes to their care and treatment.

Question: PAMC has been ranked as one of the Top 100 U.S. Hospitals® by Thomson Healthcare. What did PAMC have to do to receive this award?

Dr. Paul H. Chu: PAMC had to demonstrate that it performed at the highest level in multiple areas that affect patients and the community. Specifically, we had to show that:

- Our patients are less likely to have a complication during treatment;
- Our patients are more likely to receive care efficiently, reducing the days they spend in the hospital;
- And that our community can rely on PAMC because it is a well-managed major hospital that continuously invests in newer technology and services needed in the community.

Question: How has PAMC invested in improving care in its' community?

Dr. Paul H. Chu: By expanding services and building new facilities that are warm, welcoming and comfortable for our patients. Just last year we completed construction on a new maternity unit, where healthy, beautiful babies are now being born every day.

We also opened two new programs: The Center for Wound Healing, which is a comprehensive wound care program that features Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy; and California Spine and Joint Care an orthopedic program where patients are treated for a whole range of orthopedic conditions using non-invasive and minimally invasive procedures. These are important services to our community, in particular, because of the high number of Chinese elderly who suffer from osteoporosis, and non-healing wounds.

Question: What community programs does PAMC offer?

Dr. Paul H. Chu: One that I like, because my patients really enjoy it, is the Road to Healthy Living. This is a senior health program where seniors are rewarded with great gifts for staying healthy. The program offers health classes and seminars on topics like arthritis. When seniors enroll in this program they are also assigned a health coordinator who helps them coordinate their medical care. This is a great program for any senior who wants to prevent illness, stay healthy and have a little fun in the process.

Question: Any other comment?

Dr. Paul H. Chu: *Yes. Come visit us at PAMC.*

More about Pacific Alliance Medical Center

Pacific Alliance Medical Center (PAMC) has pursued a vision to be the best in Los Angeles since its founding in 1860. It is this vision that has inspired us to assemble a first-class team of physicians, nurses, and technicians, and to develop services and programs that are specially attuned to the needs of the diverse community we serve.

For more information about how PAMC can meet the health care needs of your family, please call (213) 437-4209