



Wake Forest University Baptist  
M E D I C A L C E N T E R

October 16, 2006

Dear Medical Center Employee:

On July 1, 2007, Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center plans to join almost 50 other hospitals and medical centers in our state in becoming tobacco-free for all patients, employees, and visitors. The new policy includes all tobacco products and will apply to all properties that are considered part of the main Medical Center campus, including Piedmont Plaza and CompRehab. The new policy also covers parking areas and vehicles on the properties. As you may know, the Medical Center became “smoke-free” for all interior spaces in 1994, and this is a further step in making our institution a healthier place to be.

A tobacco-free policy reinforces our mission and commitment to health. It also maintains the high standard of service we give the community by providing quality health care in a tobacco-free environment.

We will soon announce plans to move toward implementation of this new policy, including public notification, signage changes, and the removal or declassification of all designated tobacco use areas by July 1, 2007. Additional information, including a list of affected properties, will be available soon on the InfiNet and in *Infinity*.

Our respective HR departments will be working to support our employees throughout our transition to a tobacco-free environment. Look for more information in the near future on tobacco cessation products and strategies, including information about products supported by our employee benefit programs. In addition, we encourage employees who would like to stop using tobacco products to take advantage of the NC Tobacco Use Quitline at 1-800-784-8669 (1-800-QUIT NOW), where quitting specialists are available to help coach and support you. The NC Quitline is available in both English and Spanish from 8:00 a.m. to midnight every day of the week. The NC Quitline also has resources specific to pregnant tobacco users.

We ask for your support and understanding for all whom this will affect as we strive to promote, protect and improve the health of all of our employees, patients and visitors.

Sincerely,

Len B. Preslar, Jr.  
President & CEO  
North Carolina Baptist Hospital

Richard H. Dean, M.D.  
President & CEO  
Wake Forest University Health Sciences