



**For Immediate Release
February 4, 2009**

**For More Information Contact
Public Relations at 508-236-8020**

THE WOUND CARE CENTER AT STURDY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL CONTINUES TO DEMONSTRATE AN IMPRESSIVE RECORD OF HEALING

ATTLEBORO, MA, February 4, 2009 – An estimated seven million Americans suffer from chronic, non-healing wounds, which are wounds that persist without improvement for one month, or have not entirely healed in two. The Wound Care Center at Sturdy Memorial Hospital has been healing patients with chronic wounds since 1995. By healing severe wounds that have been chronic, in some cases, for years, the Wound Care Center has made significant improvements in its patients' quality of life. Patients who are frustrated, frightened and who may have faced amputations or disability due to their severe chronic wounds, come to the Center as a resource for help, and a place of hope and healing.

Each year, the Wound Care Center sustains a solid record of healing. According to Jessica Colbry, Program Director, "The Wound Care Center is currently logging a 94 percent complete healing rate on all wounds, and the median time to heal wounds is 31 days," a noticeable improvement compared to 91 percent and 35 days this time last year. In 2008, the Wound Care Center logged 4,537 visits from patients seeking care.

Chronic wounds are caused by a number of conditions. At the Wound Care Center, diabetic foot wounds currently have a healing rate of 97 percent, wounds related to collagen vascular disease have a healing rate of 92 percent, and wounds related to arterial circulation disorders have a 75 percent healing rate. Currently, the Center has a perfect record of healing lower extremity diabetic wounds, venous ulcers, and traumatic wounds.

Trained specialists at the Wound Care Center develop individualized treatment plans and use the latest technology to heal wounds that have not responded to conventional treatment. Methods of healing include debridements, infection control, revascularization, skin grafting, and compression therapy. Specialists, who are trained specifically to heal wounds that are the result of a patient's chronic condition or illness, educate patients to take an active role in the healing process by learning to care for their wounds at home. To learn more about the Wound Care Center at Sturdy Memorial Hospital and the conditions treated, please call 508-236-7600 or visit www.sturdymemorial.org.

Sturdy Memorial Hospital is a full-service, independent, financially stable, non-profit acute care community hospital in Attleboro, Massachusetts.

###