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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NORTH CYPRESS MEDICAL CENTER SIGNS CONTRACT WITH BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF TEXAS

*Agreement will Allow in-Network Access to Services for Blue Cross
and Blue Shield Members*

Cypress, TX, 4/6/11- Dr. Robert A. Behar, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of North Cypress Medical Center, announced today that North Cypress Medical Center will become an in-network facility provider for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas (BCBSTX) for the PPO, HMO & Traditional Products, effective June 1, 2011.

“We are pleased that more than 1 million BCBSTX members in the Houston metropolitan area will now have access to in-network hospital services at North Cypress Medical Center,” says Shara McClure, divisional vice president, Houston Healthcare Operations, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas. “This will mean lower out-of-pocket costs for Blue Cross members who use this facility.”

North Cypress Medical Center is located at Highway 290 and Huffmeister. It is a Comprehensive General Acute Care Hospital serving the greater northwest area of Harris and adjacent counties. North Cypress Medical Center also maintains a fully staffed and licensed emergency room, Outpatient Imaging and Laboratory at its additional location on 249 and Spring Cypress as well as a new location soon to be opened at Fry Road and Highway 290.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas -- the only statewide, customer-owned health insurer in Texas -- is the largest provider of health benefits in the state, working with nearly 40,000 physicians and 400 hospitals to serve 4.6 million members in all 254 counties. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas is a Division of Health Care Service Corporation (which operates Blue Cross Blue Shield plans in Texas, Illinois, Oklahoma and New Mexico), the country’s largest customer-owned health insurer and fourth largest health insurer overall. Health Care Service Corporation is a Mutual Legal Reserve Company and an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

North Cypress Medical Center is a 175-bed physician owned acute care hospital located in Cypress (northwest Houston area), Texas. The hospital offers patients state-of-the-art medical care and technology in an upscale, five-star hotel-like atmosphere. Medical services include Cardiology, Critical Care, Emergency Care, Orthopedics including a Total Joint and Spine Center, Cancer care including Radiation Oncology, and Surgical Weight Loss. Visit our website at ncmc-hospital.com for more information.

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