International Organ Transplant Society Elects President

DALLAS, Aug. 21 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Michael Ramsay, M.D., F.R.C.A., president of Baylor Research Institute (BRI) and chief of the department of anesthesiology and pain management at Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas, has been elected president of the International Liver Transplant Society (ILTS), a renowned multidisciplinary organization comprised of more than 700 international members specializing in hepatology, surgery, anesthesia, critical care, radiology, and pathology.

"Dr. Ramsay's election to such an influential position has positioned not only Baylor, but the Dallas/Fort Worth medical community as an international leader in liver transplantation," says Joel Allison, president and CEO of Baylor Health Care System. "Over the past 25 years, Dr. Ramsay has helped Baylor make significant contributions to the advancement of organ transplantation including research and developing new techniques, medications and protocols. It is an honor to have him represent our institution as he guides an organization that is committed to improving the life of so many people around the world."

The goal of the ILTS is to raise the standard of care for patients requiring liver transplantation around the world and to promote education and research by disseminating and exchanging information related to liver transplantation within the international medical community, as well as to the public.

"Liver transplantation is one of the most complex of all organ transplant surgeries. It requires a collaborative effort between researchers and physicians with special expertise in treating these highly involved cases," says Dr. Ramsay, who served as president-elect since July 2008 and whose term as president began in July 2009. "The ILTS has done a tremendous job of integrating all these different specialties. More and more advances are being made in liver transplantation, especially in the field of immunological research where Baylor Research Institute is a world leader. This is an exciting time to lead this organization."

Dr. Ramsay's election as president of the ILTS solidifies the Baylor Regional Transplant Institute's reputation as an internationally renowned transplant program. Led by Goran Klintmalm, M.D., past president of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, Baylor's transplant program is one of the most successful in the country with over 3,000 liver transplants performed since 1984.

In addition to leading the Baylor Research Institute and the department of anesthesiology and pain management at Baylor Dallas, Dr. Ramsay serves as medical director of anesthesia services at Baylor Jack and Jane Hamilton Heart and Vascular Hospital. He is a world-renowned leader in the field of anesthesiology and

is the developer of the Ramsay Sedation Scale, a

measurement system designed for interpreting the depth of sedation for patients in the critical care unit. A recognized and sought-after lecturer, Dr. Ramsay has given more than 200 invited presentations and lectures at conferences, seminars, and symposia worldwide and has published more than 150 original articles, textbook chapters, and abstracts in the field of anesthesiology. Currently, he serves as the principal investigator for 10 clinical research projects where he is investigating new techniques in organ transplantation and cardiac surgery.

Baylor is one of only a few hospitals in the nation whose surgeons and physicians on the medical staff have performed more than 8,700 transplants, making Baylor one of the largest multi-specialty transplant centers in the country. According to the United Network of Organ Sharing, Baylor's transplant survival rates exceed the national standard. Baylor offers transplant programs for blood and marrow; heart and lung; kidney and pancreas; and liver.

Dr. Ramsay has been involved in the Baylor Regional Transplant Institute since it was established in 1984. Today it is one of the nation's top transplant programs. Since its inception, physicians have performed more than 8,700 organ transplants, including liver, kidney, pancreas, heart and lung, as well as blood and marrow transplants. Physicians currently participate in more than 120 research protocols and, through Baylor's transplant research program, many of the researched drugs now are used as standard therapy.

Baylor Regional Transplant Institute is the integration of transplant services at Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas and Baylor All Saints Medical Center at Fort Worth. For more information, visit www.BaylorHealth.com [1]

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[1] http://www.BaylorHealth.com