

## OGHS wins quality service award

By Judy Bastien • [jbastien@dailyworld.com](mailto:jbastien@dailyworld.com) • June 3, 2010

Opelousas General Health System recently received the 2009 Bronze Level Hospital Quality Award from eQHealth Solutions. The announcement was made at the annual Louisiana Health Care Quality Summit in Baton Rouge.

The summit's host, eQ Health Solutions, is Louisiana's Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Louisiana, on contract with the federal government.

OGHS was one of 78 hospitals in the state to be recognized at the meeting.

The local hospital was recognized for its efforts in educating departing heart failure patients in their own after-care, said Jackie Fontenot, OGHS' director of quality and a registered nurse.

The focus of the hospital's efforts at improvement included documentation related to teaching patients with heart failure, Fontenot said.

"It related to how to take care of themselves after they get out of the hospital as far as diet, daily weighs, medications and adverse signs and symptoms," Fontenot said.

In addition to giving patients specific after-care instructions, nurses also began keeping better records on the instructions discharged patients received upon their release from the hospital.