

Hatch Medical Licenses Percutaneous Spinal Stabilization System from Physician Inventor

Atlanta, Georgia - Medical device incubator and technology brokerage firm, Hatch Medical, L.L.C. (www.hatchmedical.com) today announced it has signed an exclusive, worldwide license agreement with physician inventor, J. Kevin McGraw, M.D. for his patent-pending percutaneous spinal stabilization system. Under the terms of the agreement, Hatch Medical and J. Kevin McGraw, M.D. will create a joint venture to develop and market the unique spinal stabilization technology to the medical device industry.

The spine is made up of vertebrae separated by shock-absorbing discs. When a disc is damaged or degenerates, it can cause pressure and pain. Every year, 200,000 Americans have spinal fusion surgery, in which the damaged spinal disc is removed and the vertebrae are joined together with bone grafts, metal plates and screws. While many of these techniques involve highly invasive procedures, the fusion relieves the pain but unfortunately limits mobility

A published author, editor and noted lecturer on interventional radiology procedures of the spine, Dr. McGraw's proprietary technology and design elements provide a minimally invasive means to stabilize adjacent vertebrae while preserving patient mobility. The system involves an image-guided, 10 gauge percutaneous placement of a series of curved stabilization devices cross-linking adjacent vertebrae. "We believe our percutaneous system will provide an alternative means to effectively treat discogenic back pain," commented physician inventor J. Kevin McGraw. "Our system permits a fast, efficacious and cost effective means to stabilize and support the targeted region," added Dr. McGraw.

The development of percutaneous, minimally invasive spinal procedures has yielded major improvements in reducing recovery time and postoperative pain. "Dr. McGraw's ingenious image-guided approach is well suited for application to procedures affecting the spine," commented Steven Hvozda, a Principal member of Hatch Medical. "Hatch Medical is thoroughly excited to be partnering with Dr. McGraw and we are convinced his innovation will play an important role in the evolution of next generation spinal stabilization devices," added Mr. Hvozda.

Dr. McGraw, further commented, "Hatch Medical is an ideal partner to develop this technology, as their expertise and experience in minimally invasive devices is vital. I look forward to taking an active role in the development and commercialization of this novel technology and truly believe it will offer an effective treatment alternative."

Hatch Medical jointly develops and brokers minimally invasive medical devices for the diagnosis and treatment of vascular, oncological and orthopedic disease through its network of product development experts.

For additional information on this, or other Hatch Medical, L.L.C. products and services, e-mail the company at info@hatchmedical.com. This release and additional news about Hatch Medical can be obtained by visiting the company's web site at: <http://www.hatchmedical.com>.

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