

## **Novel Percutaneous Dynamic Spinal Stabilization System: Feasibility Results Presented at SIR Annual Meeting**

**Atlanta, Georgia** - Medical device incubator and technology brokerage firm, Hatch Medical, L.L.C. ([www.hatchmedical.com](http://www.hatchmedical.com)) today announced that physician inventor and development partner, J. Kevin McGraw, M.D. will be presenting successful feasibility results for VPIN Systems™ at the Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) Symposium, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 2:33 pm - Washington State Convention and Trade Center, room 210.

The spine is made up of vertebrae separated by shock-absorbing discs. When a disc is damaged or degenerates, it may cause 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 VPIN Systems™ technology and design elements provide a truly 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 nitinol rods cross-linking adjacent vertebrae. "The purpose of our study was to determine the technical feasibility of VPIN™ insertion in a spine model and cadaver spine," commented Dr. McGraw. "I am extremely pleased with the initial results and believe our percutaneous system will provide a fast, efficacious and cost effective alternative to effectively treat discogenic back pain," 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, Principal of Hatch Medical. "Hatch Medical is thoroughly excited with the initial feasibility results and we are convinced VPIN Systems™ will play an important role in the evolution of next generation spinal stabilization devices," added Mr. Hvozda.

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](mailto: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/>.

Contact Steven Hvozda, Principal, 404-827-9778 or Paul Gianneschi, Managing Principal, 770-476-9940.



**Hatch Medical, L.L.C.**  
8750 Islesworth Court  
Duluth, GA 30097  
Phone: 770-476-9940  
Facsimile: 770-476-7740  
[info@hatchmedical.com](mailto:info@hatchmedical.com)

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