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Media Contact
Lori Astor
954.513.6662



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WESTSIDE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER'S NEUROSURGEON INSERTS THE FIRST ARTIFICIAL CERVICAL DISC IN BROWARD COUNTY

Plantation, FL - Westside Regional Medical Center (WRMC) is proud to announce the use of a new surgical technique that offers patients a chance to maintain motion in their necks following surgery for cervical degenerative disc disease. On December 5th, 2007, Dr. Guillermo Pasarin, Neurosurgeon on staff at WRMC, successfully inserted the first artificial cervical disc in Broward County. Dr. Pasarin is one of the top neurosurgeons in Broward County, served as the Official Neurosurgeon for the Florida Panthers, and upholds the privilege of being a member of Westside Regional's Medical Executive Committee.

The new artificial disc, called the PRESTIGE® Cervical Disc, is inserted into the neck using a similar procedure to the technique surgeons use when performing a spinal fusion. The PRESTIGE Cervical Disc, used in a procedure called cervical disc arthroplasty, showed superior neurological and overall success outcomes in a recently concluded clinical trial that compared the clinical outcomes of cervical artificial disc replacement (PRESTIGE Cervical Disc) to anterior cervical discectomy and fusion (spinal fusion) procedures. It is the first artificial disc approved for the cervical spine by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

The PRESTIGE ® Cervical Disc has been on the market for 3 months. This stainless steel disc is anchored with screws and is meant to preserve mobility, motion preservation, and quality of life. This type of procedure is ideal for those individual who are less than 40 years old, has had a single herniated disc, young or degenerated disc. Those individuals who have had a spinal fusion are aware of the small chance the fusion sight can blow out. With the PRESTIGE® Cervical Disc, the area now inserted with the artificial disk is secure enough where a blow out is not an option.

Neck pain patients can discuss their options with their Neurologist or Neurosurgeon to determine the extent of their spinal problems and whether this artificial disc is a viable option for their treatment. To learn more about this cutting edge technique, log onto www.prestigedisc.com. To find a neurosurgeon that performs this procedure, call 1-866-4HCA-DOCs.

Westside Regional Medical Center (WRMC) is a 224-bed facility celebrating over 30 years of caring for families and individuals in central Broward County.

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