Medtronic News

Jury Awards Medtronic $101 Million in Patent Suit against NuVasive

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Sep 20, 2011 (BUSINESS WIRE) --

Medtronic, Inc. (NYSE:MDT) announced today that a jury in the United States District Court of the Southern District of California in San Diego, found that NuVasive's CoRoent XL implants, MaXcess II and III retractors, and Helix and Helix mini anterior cervical plates infringe three patents owned by Medtronic.

The jury awarded Medtronic $101.2 million in damages.

"We are pleased by the jury's verdict," said Doug King, senior vice-president and president of Medtronic Spinal. "The decision confirms our leadership in spinal implant technology, and we remain committed to vigorously defending our intellectual property."

Medtronic's three patents are related to implants for the thoracic and lumbar spine, a plate and screw system for the cervical spine and a tissue retractor.

The translateral implant and cervical plate patents cover inventions developed by Gary K. Michelson, M.D.

About Medtronic's Spinal Business

Medtronic's Spinal Business, based in Memphis, Tenn., is the global leader in today's spine market and is committed to advancing the treatment of spinal conditions. Medtronic Spinal collaborates with world-renowned surgeons, researchers and innovative partners to offer state-of-the-art products and technologies for neurological, orthopaedic and spinal conditions. Medtronic is committed to developing affordable, minimally invasive procedures that provide lifestyle friendly surgical therapies. More information about the company and its spinal treatments can be found at www.medtronicspinal.com and its patient-education Web sites, www.back.com, www.iscoliosis.com, www.maturespine.com and www.necksurgery.com.

About Medtronic

Medtronic, Inc. (www.medtronic.com), headquartered in Minneapolis, is the global leader in medical technology - alleviating pain, restoring health, and extending life for millions of people around the world.

Any forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties such as those described in Medtronic's periodic reports on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Actual results may differ materially from anticipated results.

SOURCE: Medtronic, Inc.

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