Medtronic News

Medtronic Announces U.S. Launch of Spine Essentials Demonstrating Its Commitment to Create Value in Healthcare

New Platform Increases Efficiencies and Reduces Costs Associated with Common Spinal Surgery

DUBLIN and DALLAS - May 19, 2016 - Medtronic plc (NYSE: MDT) announced the U.S. launch of Spine Essentials(TM), a new platform of spinal implants and instruments designed to make the most common cervical spine fusion procedures more efficient and help hospital systems manage costs, while maintaining quality. The goal of Spine Essentials is to help surgeons and their staffs streamline the most common spinal fusions, by providing the exact tools in the right quantities needed to perform 1- and 2-level cervical spinal fusions, while reducing the costs and time required for instrument sterilization, case set up and inventory management.

Spine Essentials was developed in collaboration with leading surgeons and administrators and launched today at the Ambulatory Surgical Center Association (ASCA) annual meeting in Dallas.

"As a surgeon who routinely performs these types of surgeries, it's helpful to optimize the implants and tools, so we're being as efficient as possible to provide the best care possible to our patients," said Dr. Richard N.W. Wohns, neurosurgeon at neoSpine in Puyallup, WA and one of the physicians who collaborated with Medtronic to develop the platform.

To develop Spine Essentials, Medtronic partnered with healthcare systems across the U.S. to evaluate unmet needs and identify efficiencies. Spine Essentials implant sets include the most commonly used implant sizes for 1- and 2-level fusions of the neck (anterior cervical discectomy and fusions) and are sterile packaged with smaller instrument sets; thereby reducing the amount of inventory a hospital needs to sterilize, set up and store. This platform will reduce sterilization costs associated with the procedure, including:

- ~44% fewer instruments to sterilize compared with the full-sized configurations.
- 91% fewer items to sterilize compared with the full-sized instrument and implant sets.
- 67% reduction in number of cases to sterilize compared with the full-sized instrument and implant sets.

"Healthcare systems are under intense economic challenges, and Spine Essentials is an example of how Medtronic can bring value to spine surgery by optimizing costs and efficiency," said Doug King, senior vice president and president of Medtronic's Spinal business, which is part of the Restorative Therapies Group at Medtronic. "We're committed to delivering successful patient outcomes more efficiently, but we can't do it alone which is why Spine Essentials was developed with the input of physicians and hospitals."

Spine Essentials incorporates technology developed by Gary K. Michelson, M.D.



About Medtronic's Spinal Business

We shape spine surgery for the better - delivering smarter procedures and healing biologics. As a global leader, we partner with other healthcare stakeholders to accelerate innovations that create surgical efficiencies and improve outcomes for more patients. More information about spinal treatments can be found at our patient-education website, www.back.com.

About Medtronic

Medtronic plc (www.medtronic.com), headquartered in Dublin, Ireland, is among the world's largest medical technology,

services and solutions companies - alleviating pain, restoring health and extending life for millions of people around the world. Medtronic employs more than 85,000 people worldwide, serving physicians, hospitals and patients in approximately 160 countries. The company is focused on collaborating with stakeholders around the world to take healthcare Further, Together.

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.

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