



News Release

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Spine Wave Begins Patient Enrollment in NuCore™ Injectable Nucleus Clinical Trial

Shelton, CT—February 21, 2006: Spine Wave, Inc. announced today that it has begun patient enrollment in a feasibility IDE clinical trial studying the company's proprietary NuCore™ Injectable Nucleus. Spine Wave believes that NuCore™ Injectable Nucleus is the first injectable spinal nucleus device to be implanted into patients within an FDA approved study.

In this IDE study, the NuCore™ Injectable Nucleus will be implanted following a standard microdiscectomy procedure in order to fill the void created when herniated nuclear material is surgically removed from the disc. The NuCore™ material is injected in liquid form then rapidly cures to a gel that has physical properties similar to those of the natural nucleus. The goal of the procedure is to supplement the remaining natural nucleus and in so doing, restore the normal biomechanics of the disc.

Scott Kitchel, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at Oregon Health and Sciences University, is the Principal Investigator in this study. "I am excited to participate in this study", stated Dr. Kitchel. "This is one of the most exciting technologies I have seen in the field of spine and I am very encouraged by the early study results coming out of Europe. Unlike many other spinal implants, the injectable nature of the NuCore™ material allows it to be used in a minimally invasive fashion, therefore minimizing damage to the surrounding tissues. The NuCore™ Injectable Nucleus has the potential to help thousands of patients who suffer from back and associated leg pain."

The NuCore™ Injectable Nucleus was developed in conjunction with Spine Wave's technology partner, Protein Polymer Technologies Inc (PPTI). Spine Wave holds an exclusive license to 26 patents and other patent applications pending in the United States and internationally in the fields of Spine and Orthopedics. The material is a synthetic protein copolymer, and as such, contains no animal or human components. The physical properties of the NuCore™ Injectable Nucleus, including stiffness and water content, are engineered to be similar to those of the natural nucleus.

Spine Wave has now enrolled patients in microdiscectomy studies of NuCore™ Injectable Nucleus in four countries: Switzerland, Australia, Germany, and the United

States, and expects to expand enrollment of these and other studies in the first half of 2006. The Company also expects to initiate enrollment in European clinical studies to assess the potential of the NuCore™ Injectable Nucleus to help treat patients suffering from Degenerative Disc Disease.

About Spine Wave:

Spine Wave is a medical device company focused on the development and marketing of clinical solutions for three of the largest and fastest growing spinal market segments: nuclear replacement and augmentation, vertebral compression fracture repair and spinal fusion. The company's product portfolio includes the NuCore™ Injectable Nucleus, the StaXx™ FX Fracture Repair System, the StaXx™ XD Expandable Device, and several products in development. For more information, visit Spine Wave's website at www.spinewave.com.

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