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Multi-center cadaver study shows HydroCision's *SpineJet*[®] XL removed nearly 96 percent more soft tissue from the difficult-to-access posterior contralateral disc area compared to conventional instruments used in preparation for spinal fusion surgery

'Cutting-with-water' *SpineJet* XL instrument ushers in the era of *HydroSurgery*[™] for the spine market

"Safe removal of as much disc material as possible from the interbody space, particularly from the difficult-to-reach posterior contralateral disc surface, is important in increasing the success of lumbar interbody spine fusion. Our study conclusively showed that removing tissue from the posterior contralateral surface in a TLIF procedure can be done more effectively using HydroCision's SpineJet XL devices compared to conventional instruments."

Mitchell Hardenbrook, M.D.,
Director of Spine Surgery
Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, Virginia

BILLERICA, Mass., Feb. 6, 2006 — HydroCision[®] Inc. (www.hydrocision.com) announced today that a multi-center study (using cadaver models) demonstrated that the Company's *fluidjet*-based instruments removed nearly 96 percent more soft tissue from the difficult-to-access posterior contralateral region than conventional surgical instruments in preparation for spinal fusion.

HydroCision's *HydroSurgery* system, including *SpineJet* XL instruments, uses a high-velocity stream of water to simultaneously cut and aspirate damaged tissue from spinal discs in preparation for fusion. The technique's advantages, illustrated by this multi-center study, include the safe and more effective removal of degenerated disc-nucleus material and endplate preparation that can lead to optimal clinical outcomes.

"Technology that allows the spine surgeon to effectively remove as much endplate cartilage as possible will facilitate interbody fusion," said Mitchell Hardenbrook, M.D., principal investigator and Director of Spine Surgery at the Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, Va. "Our evaluations comparing HydroCision's *SpineJet* XL instrument to conventional surgical instruments showed that disc preparation via a *HydroSurgery* technique not only reduced the number of passes of the instruments compared to conventional tools but also was more effective removing disc material, thus optimizing the environment for lumbar interbody fusion."

"We are very pleased with the multi-center study that clearly positions *HydroSurgery*, in general, and our *SpineJet* XL product, in particular, as a safe and effective modality for spine surgeons—allowing them to confidently prepare a disc space more thoroughly for fusion procedures, with less collateral damage than other modalities, while minimizing the repetitive motion and fatigue currently experienced by spine surgeons using conventional tools," added Douglas J. Daniels, President and CEO of HydroCision. "We believe *HydroSurgery* will become a standard of care for spine surgeons performing PLIF (Posterior Lumbar Interbody Fusion), TLIF (Transforaminal Lumbar Interbody Fusion) and all MIS (Minimally Invasive Surgery) fusion procedures."

About HydroCision

HydroCision (www.hydrocision.com) is a leading designer, developer and distributor of *fluidjet*-based surgical tools. The Company believes its proprietary *fluidjet* technology is the basis of a new surgical modality, "*HydroSurgery*", because of its compelling features and versatility. The Company has developed a broad range of *fluidjet*-based products to meet the needs of multiple specialties.

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