New data reinforces the proven safety and effectiveness of the BIRMINGHAM HIP Resurfacing System

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News

80-percent of US surgeons choose the BHR hip as it outperforms all other metal-on-metal resurfacing devices

Memphis, Tenn. (May 3, 2010) – Recent new data1 presented at this year’s American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS) annual meeting reinforces the BIRMINGHAM HIP® Resurfacing (BHR) System as a safe and effective hip resurfacing device. The multi-site study, performed by orthopedic surgeons practicing at nine Canadian academic centers, showed that three years after surgery, 99.91% of their 3,400 hip resurfacing patients experienced no implant failure due to metal wear debris. The BHR Hip was the most used resurfacing device in this study.

This week, the Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS) in New York City will be holding a medical education course titled "Total Hip: Replacement and Resurfacing" on May 7 and 8 for leading hip surgery specialists from across the U.S. Chairing the course will be Edwin Su, MD, of the Hospital for Special Surgery, and the teaching faculty will include pioneering British surgeon Derek McMinn, MD, inventor of the BHR hip.

During a press conference and Q&A webcast on Thursday, May 6, at 3 p.m. US EDT, 7 p.m. GMT, Joseph M. DeVivo, president of Smith & Nephew Orthopaedics (NYSE: SNN, LSE: SN), the maker of the BHR Hip, will be joined by Dr. Su and Mr. McMinn, as well as Scott Marwin, MD, an orthopedic surgeon with New York University’s Hospital for Joint Diseases. The panel will review current data confirming the safety and effectiveness of hip resurfacing and the BHR Hip. Smith & Nephew Orthopaedics will host the call, and additional details are at the bottom of this release.

The new study recently presented at the AAOS meeting aligns with previously released BHR Hip data from other prestigious sources and further addresses the metal wear debris concerns raised about metal-on-metal hip implants. The BHR Hip’s track record for longevity remains unchallenged in the literature, as well.

These sources include:

- The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery published in January of this year a study tracking 155 consecutive BHR patients over three years. The data showed no revisions
of BHR Hips due to metal wear, but patients who received a competing metal-on-metal resurfacing device were revised within three years of surgery at a rate of 3.4-percent due to adverse tissue reactions.2

- The Australian Orthopaedic Association’s 2008 National Joint Replacement Registry, a record of nearly every hip implanted in that country over the previous 10 years, tracked 6,773 BHR Hips and found that less than one-third of one-percent may have been revised due to the patient’s reaction to the metal component.3

- The Australian Registry hip resurfacing data for 2009, 70-percent of which comes from BHR Hip procedures, indicates that for men under age 65, hip resurfacing performs at the same or a better rate than total hip replacement. This registry also shows that the BHR Hip remains successful in 95-percent of cases eight years after surgery, whereas no other implant performs better than 94.7-percent just five years after surgery.4

- Great Britain’s Oswestry Outcomes Centre’s patient registry, which tracked 5,000 BHR Hips implanted by 148 different surgeons in 37 countries over 10 years (1998-2008), reports that the BHR Hip remains successful in 95.4-percent of all patient segments 10 years after surgery. This registry also reported that 98.6-percent of patients were “pleased” or “extremely satisfied” with their BHR Hip implants 10 years after their resurfacing procedure.5

- Mr. McMinn’s clinical data, based on 3,095 hip resurfacing patients implanted between 1997 and
2009, shows that more than 12 years after surgery, the BHR hip remains successful in 99-percent
of men aged 60 and over, and 97-percent for men under age 60.

"The BHR Hip's outcomes are remarkable when compared to other resurfacing devices," said Dr. Marwin.

"The depth and consistency of the data collected globally shows the BHR Hip is truly different."

"For the right patients in my practice, hip resurfacing has proven to be an excellent choice," said Dr. Su.

"They have extremely high levels of satisfaction after returning to their regular lifestyle."

To explain the patient advantages seen consistently in the literature, surgeons indicate the key differences
between the BHR Hip and other resurfacing devices are its metal composition, its design geometry and its
surgical instrumentation.

The BHR Hip has a unique metallurgy heritage which goes back more than 30 years and includes a first-generation
metal-on-metal resurfacing process which contributes to long-term survivorship of BHR Hip recipients.

Additionally, the BHR Hip's design geometry replicates the natural hip's ability to pull the body's own joint fluids into the ball and socket interface, which is believed to be another source of its best-in-class performance.

Of particular importance during hip resurfacing surgery is the correct positioning of the acetabular cup, or hip socket. When this component is not properly aligned, studies show that metal wear can accelerate and resurfacing devices can fail before their time. Surgeons believe that the instrument used to implant the BHR Hip is simpler and more accurate than other devices; instruments, and may contribute to its success.

"Just like the lubricating barrier in a healthy hip, there is a natural fluid layer between the femoral head and the cup that the two metal surfaces glide across during physical activity," said Mr. McMinn. "If the surgeon malpositions the acetabular cup causing edge loading, the
lubrication is lost. It's equivalent to running a car engine without lubrication oil. High wear will occur, resulting in premature failure. Overall, it is a combination of the metal composition, the design and the quality of the surgical technique that makes the BHR Hip the safest resurfacing implant on the market.

"The bottom line is that the BHR Hip is not like other metal-on-metal hip implants," said DeVivo. "Not only does it have the longest track record of any resurfacing device, but the most esteemed medical literature shows it outlasts other implants. It's in a class all its own — it's safe and effective, and is the best choice for active patients."

To participate in the press conference webcast being held on May 6, please use the dial-in numbers below. Afterwards, a recording of the press conference and links to multiple sources of scientific data related to hip resurfacing and the BHR Hip will be available at HipResurfacing.com and at BirminghamHipResurfacing.com.

The replay will also be available by phone at 800-406-7325 in the U.S. and 0800 358 3474 in the U.K.; both numbers require the passcode 4293934.

An archived replay will be available at this same link for six months.

Footnotes


5 Robinson E, Richardson JB, Khan M. MINIMUM 10 YEAR OUTCOME OF BIRMINGHAM HIP RESURFACING (BHR), A REVIEW OF 518 CASES FROM AN INTERNATIONAL REGISTER. Oswestry outcome centre, Oswestry, UK.
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