



**Spinal Kinetics and Dr. Carl Laurysen of NeuroTexas Initiate  
US FDA Clinical Trial of M6®-C Artificial Cervical Disc  
at Lakeway Regional Medical Center**

SUNNYVALE, CA and LAKEWAY, TX -- Spinal Kinetics, the designer and manufacturer of the M6® Artificial Disc, and Carl Laurysen MD, a leading spine surgeon with NeuroTexas, announced the initiation of Lakeway Regional Medical Center as an FDA Clinical Study site for the M6-C Artificial spinal disc. Dr. Laurysen is co-principal investigator of the study and his colleagues at NeuroTexas, Dr. Mark Burnett, Dr. Douglas Fox and Dr. Michael Webb are sub principal investigators for the study.

Lakeway Regional Medical Center is one of only a select number of centers in the US. The trial compares single-level cervical disc replacement to single-level cervical fusion using the M6-C artificial disc which represents next generation technology in artificial cervical disc design.

“We are very excited to participate in this important clinical trial”, said Dr. Carl Laurysen. “The M6-C has an excellent track record overseas, and we are happy to finally bring this advancement to our patient base here in the US as part of this clinical study.”

The M6-C artificial cervical disc is designed to help patients suffering from degenerative disc disease of the spine; a common cause of chronic neck and arm pain. The M6 technology provides an alternative to spinal fusion and is designed to restore natural physiologic motion to the spine. The M6 is the only artificial disc that replicates the anatomic structure and biomechanics of a natural disc by incorporating both an artificial nucleus and annulus.

“Spinal Kinetics is proud to collaborate with Dr. Laurysen and Lakeway Regional Medical Center on this important milestone event,” said Thomas Afzal, President and CEO of Spinal Kinetics, Inc. “Spine surgeons and patients across the US have asked for access to this leading edge disc technology, and we are excited to continue the process toward FDA approval by

working with key Surgeon/Investigators like Dr. Laurysen and innovative Spine Centers like Lakeway Regional Medical Center.”

Introduced internationally in 2006, M6 technology has quickly become the market leader in Europe and other international markets and is available in over 27 countries worldwide. With approximately 37,000 implants to date, the M6 has become the disc of choice among leading spine surgeons around the world. In the U.S., Spinal Kinetics has successfully completed an FDA approved pilot study of the M6-C and subsequently received approval from the FDA to initiate the current clinical trial.

**For more information on enrollment in the M6-C Clinical Trial, please contact, Brianna Robertson at [Brianna.robertson@lakewayregional.com](mailto:Brianna.robertson@lakewayregional.com) or 512-571-5450.**

### **About Degenerative Disc Disease**

Between adjacent vertebra throughout the spine is an intervertebral disc; a shock-absorbing pillow that helps maintain proper spacing, stability, and motion within the spine. Each disc has a fibrous outer band called the annulus fibrosus that encases a central, gel-like substance called the nucleus pulposus. The nucleus and annulus work together to absorb shock, help stabilize the spine, and provide a controlled range of motion between adjacent vertebra. Often brought on by aging, the spine begins to show signs of wear and tear and the discs can dry out and shrink. This degenerative process can put pressure on the spinal cord and nerves and may cause neck, arm and back pain and other painful conditions such as spinal stenosis or a herniated disc.

### **About Spinal Kinetics**

Founded in 2003, Spinal Kinetics is a privately held medical device company focused on developing innovative and practical solutions for treatment of diseases of the spine. The M6-C cervical and M6-L lumbar artificial discs have rapidly established themselves among the leading artificial discs available due to their unique biomechanical properties that replicate the motion of a natural disc. The company is located in Sunnyvale, California.

### **About Lakeway Regional Medical Center**

Lakeway Regional Medical Center (LRMC) is a state-of-the art medical campus dedicated to the delivery of world-class healthcare. LRMC provides services in emergency medicine, neurosurgery, orthopedics, neurology, cardiology, general surgery, gastroenterology, women's health. For more information about LRMC, visit [lakewayregional.com](http://lakewayregional.com) or call 512-571-5000.

For more information on Spinal Kinetics, the M6 Artificial Disc and the M6-C Clinical Trial, please visit [www.spinalkinetics.com](http://www.spinalkinetics.com).

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