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#### **Immediate Release**

### **LAFAYETTE SURGEON NOW TRAINED IN USE OF UNIQUE ALTERNATIVE TO TOTAL HIP REPLACEMENT**

Innovative Birmingham Hip Resurfacing™ System preserves bone and joint stability for young, active patients

**Lafayette, IN (March, 2008)** – Dr. Michael Highhouse, Lafayette Orthopaedic Clinic, is among the growing number of surgeons in this country who have been trained in the remarkable new Birmingham Hip Resurfacing (BHR) technique. As the first orthopaedic surgeon in the area trained to perform BHR, Dr. Highhouse can now offer his active patients with good bone health an alternative to total hip replacement that conserves bone, provides greater stability and increases range of motion.

The bone-conserving approach of the Birmingham Hip Resurfacing System is achieved by covering the hip joint's surfaces with an all-metal implant that more closely resembles a tooth cap than a traditional hip implant. This approach reduces the post-operative risks of dislocation and inaccurate leg length. In addition, because it contains no plastic elements, the all-metal implant has the potential to last longer than traditional hip implants.

Dr. Highhouse says, "I see hip resurfacing as the ideal solution for many of my young, active patients who suffer from hip pain. While traditional hip replacement can do wonders for the majority of patients in terms of reducing pain and returning mobility, there is a growing population of patients that are looking for more. These patients looking to regain the active lifestyles they love, whether it's biking, running, dancing or even martial arts. The Birmingham Hip Resurfacing System now provides me with an alternative that meets the needs of these patients."

The Birmingham Hip implant is intended for patients suffering from hip pain due to osteoarthritis, dysplasia or avascular necrosis, and for whom total hip replacement may not be appropriate due to their increased level of physical activity. For this reason, most surgeons feel it will be ideal for patients under age 65 who live non-sedentary lifestyles.

#### **About Lafayette Orthopaedic Clinic**

Lafayette Orthopaedic Clinic has been serving the Lafayette and surrounding communities for over 50 years. Lafayette Orthopaedic Clinic specializes in Sportsmedicine, Arthroscopic Surgery, Arthritis, Joint Replacement Surgery, Fracture care and Hand & Foot Surgery. Lafayette Orthopaedic Clinic is located at 1411 South Creasy Lane, Suite 120, in Lafayette. To find out more information visit them at [www.lafayetteortho.com](http://www.lafayetteortho.com) or call 765-447-4165.

#### **About the Birmingham Hip Resurfacing implant**

While the BHR implant closely matches the size of a patient's natural femoral head (hip ball), it is substantially larger than the femoral head of a traditional total hip replacement implant. This increased size translates to greater stability in the new joint, and it decreases the chance of dislocation of the implant after surgery.

Total hip replacement involves the removal of the entire femoral head and neck. The Birmingham Hip resurfacing technique, however, preserves the head and neck, thereby preserving the natural length of the leg.

The Birmingham Hip implant is an all-metal, cobalt chrome, ball and socket joint. Most traditional hip replacements use a metal ball and a plastic socket. This plastic socket can wear down over time, and may need to be replaced surgically. In fact, it is a leading cause of follow-up surgeries. All-metal total hip replacements reduce joint wear substantially when compared to total hip implants containing these plastic sockets.

Developed by Surgeons Derek McMinn and Ronan Treacy in Birmingham England, the Birmingham Hip Resurfacing system was first introduced in July 1997 in the UK and has now been implanted in more than 65,000 patients in 26



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countries. Dr. Highhouse received his training on Birmingham Hip Resurfacing in Birmingham, England with Dr. McMinn.

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For more information about the Birmingham Hip Resurfacing System, contact: Dr. Highhouse at Lafayette Orthopedic Clinic @ (765) 447-4165

Birmingham Hip Resurfacing is a trademark of Smith & Nephew, Inc.