

# PRESS RELEASE



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

contact: Monique Weaver  
Marketing Manager  
[office] 309-689-7049  
[cell] 309-712-4807  
[fax] 309-689-7094  
mweaver@midwest-ortho.com  
www.midwest-ortho.com

## Peoria Surgeon Advances Spine Research on Global Scale

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6000 N. Allen Road  
Peoria, Illinois 61614  
309-691-1400  
FAXI 309-693-3154

Jeffrey W. Akeson, M.D.

Nirain A. D'Souza, M.D.

Michael J. Gibbons, M.D.

Brent C. Johnson, M.D.

Richard A. Kube II, M.D.

Brett R. Levine, M.D.

John D. Mahoney, M.D.

Michael S. Merkley, M.D.

Thomas J. Mulvey, M.D.

James R. Williams, M.D.

Marc A. Zussman, M.D.

recently retired

David E. Conner, M.D.

Edward A. Smith, M.D.

PEORIA, IL - Peoria is gaining respect as a mecca for healthcare. Along with that title comes the research that accompanies such a title. One of Peoria's leading Spine Surgeons, Richard Kube II, MD, is on the cutting edge of new technology not only in the country but in the world. Dr. Kube is currently employing disc replacement and a spine stabilization system that will allow patients more natural spinal motion after surgery.

Doctors sometimes use fusion to assist those with low back pain. Fusion requires joining two bones together. Unfortunately, fusion limits motion and can significantly accelerate spinal arthritis in other areas of the spine. The negative aspects of fusion have been acceptable as trade-offs to allow patients to live a better quality of life.

Dr. Kube is employing a new procedure that utilizes the Dynesys Dynamic Spine Stabilization System. Utilizing this device and technique can allow patients to return to work and daily activities sooner and with fewer restrictions as a result of the procedure. This procedure secures the spine through the use of a flexible rod and screw system. Dr. Kube is furthering the research for this procedure by doing it on select patients who are most likely to have a favorable outcome. He is the first surgeon in Central Illinois to use the system. Currently, the Dynesys device is in the trial stage and is awaiting FDA approval.

Disc replacement surgery is an area Dr. Kube is also researching. This implant utilizes the principal of motion. Not unlike hip or knee joint replacement, this system allows patients to have the crippled portion of their spine replaced and stabilized. Disc replacement has been studied in the United States for the past 7 years but has only been approved for the past few years due to the strict approval program used by the FDA.

Dr. Kube will be presenting research related to the new treatments at the Global Symposium on Spine Motion Preservation in Germany this spring and later at the Scoliosis Research Society meeting in Hungary. He says, "It is important to note that these procedures may not be for everyone. However, the advances made in the area of disc replacement and spinal stabilization present a good option for many patients and can increase their ability to live full lives."

- more -

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MIDWEST  
ORTHOPÆDIC  
CENTER

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Peoria, Illinois 61614  
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FAXI 309-693-3154

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Michael Gibbons, MD, president, states, "Research is a cornerstone of medicine. Midwest Orthopaedic Center prides itself on learning and keeping in step with medical advances. We are pleased with Dr. Kube's results and encourage all our physicians to learn new procedures and participate in study." The Center trains doctors in residency from University of Illinois Medical College at their facility as well.

## **About Midwest Orthopaedic Center:**

Midwest Orthopaedic Center offers more specialties than any other orthopaedic group in Central Illinois and has a new facility located at 6000 N. Allen Road. Midwest Orthopaedic Center is proud to serve the Peoria Community and all its fine hospitals. For more information please see <http://www.midwest-ortho.com>

## **About the Global Symposium on Spine Motion Preservation:**

This important symposium is an annual event in its seventh year that sponsored by the Spine Arthroplasty Society. The Society is dedicated to advancing a major revolutionary step in spine surgery – restoring pain-free natural mobility. Members are spine specialists, groups or organizations whose common cause is the advancement of spine arthroplasty. For more information please see <http://www.spinearthroplasty.org/>

## **About the Scoliosis Research Society:**

The Scoliosis Research Society (SRS) is an international society that has gained recognition as one of the world's premier spine societies. Current membership includes the world's leading spine surgeons, researchers, physician assistants and orthotists. This June they hold the Eastern European Regional meeting in Budapest, Hungary. It is designed to provide education and information exchange on a wide range of spine topics. For more information please see <http://www.srs.org/>

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