



For Immediate Release:

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## **Spine Team Texas Physicians Named Partners**

**Southlake, Texas (August 12, 2011)** – Spine Team Texas, a comprehensive spine center for neck and back disorders, announces that Heather Blackburn, M.D., Amit Darnule, M.D., and Anthony Berg, M.D., have been named as partners in the practice. Dr. Blackburn is a physical medicine and rehabilitation physician specializing in the treatment and diagnosis of neck and back disorders including electromyography studies. Both Dr. Darnule and Dr. Berg are pain anesthesiologists, fellowship-trained in acute and chronic spine pain management. “We are extremely excited to have these physicians join us as partners on the leadership team. Their professionalism, clinical expertise, compassion, and caring personalities will only serve to help lead Spine Team Texas successfully into the future,” says David Rothbart, M.D., neurosurgeon, founder and medical director of Spine Team Texas.

Dr. Blackburn joined Spine Team Texas in 2006. She has a particular interest in women’s issues as related to the spine, spanning all generations from the young female athlete to gestational back pain and osteoporosis.

Dr. Darnule has practiced with the group since 2008. He dedicates his time to clinical research and helping those less fortunate through volunteering his medical skills around the world including mission trips to Mexico, China, and Haiti.

Dr. Berg practices full-time out of the Spine Team Texas sister-facility in Rockwall, Texas. Prior to joining the team, Dr. Berg served as an investigator at the Center for Clinical Research, a well respected institution conducting research for those in chronic spine pain.

Dr. Darnule and Dr. Berg currently serve as co-investigators for an FDA-regulated, clinical research study that may offer an alternative treatment for degenerative discs in the lumbar spine. The practice was given recognition for being the highest enrollment site for the study this August. “The expertise of our new partners further enhances our capability at Spine Team Texas. We have an outstanding team dedicated to offering patients new and improved methods for reducing pain, increasing mobility and improving quality of life,” says Dr. Rothbart.

### **About Dr. Blackburn**

Dr. Blackburn received her medical degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch and her undergraduate degree in biology from Baylor University. For more information about Dr. Blackburn visit [www.spineteamtexas.com/Mee-biographies-heather-blackburn.aspx](http://www.spineteamtexas.com/Mee-biographies-heather-blackburn.aspx).

### **About Dr. Darnule**

Dr. Darnule completed his medical school at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Houston, graduating summa cum laude. For more information about Dr. Darnule visit [www.spineteamtexas.com/Mee-biographies-amit-darnule.aspx](http://www.spineteamtexas.com/Mee-biographies-amit-darnule.aspx).

### **About Dr. Berg**

Dr. Berg received his medical degree from Texas A&M University Health Science Center. He earned his undergraduate degree with honors from Texas A&M University in College Station. For more information about Dr. Berg visit [www.spineteamtexas.com/Mee-biographies-anthony-berg.aspx](http://www.spineteamtexas.com/Mee-biographies-anthony-berg.aspx).

### **About Spine Team Texas**

A premier regional spine center of excellence, Spine Team Texas specializes in the treatment of back and neck disorders ranging from simple back or neck strains to the most complex spine surgeries. Through its in-depth knowledge and team atmosphere, Spine Team Texas is dedicated to treating patients conservatively through education, spine-focused physical therapy, non-surgical treatments, and minimally invasive spine surgery as a last resort when necessary. The comprehensive team includes physiatrists, specialized in acute spine pain management; neurosurgeons and an orthopedic surgeon, specialized in minimally invasive spine surgery techniques; spine-focused physical therapists; an anesthesiologist, fellowship-trained in chronic spine pain management; and on-site registered nurses that strive to help patients return to everyday activities. Established in December 2004, Spine Team Texas is headquartered in Southlake, Texas. The practice opened a full-service, sister-facility in March 2009 in Rockwall, Texas, and operates a satellite clinic in Arlington, Texas. Spine Team Texas has been named to *Dallas Business Journal's* 'Best Places to Work' in 2011 for the third consecutive year as nominated by their employees. They have also received the prestigious *Dallas Business Journal's* "Healthcare Heroes—Physician Award" as nominated by their patients. For more information, please visit [www.spineteamtexas.com](http://www.spineteamtexas.com) or follow them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/spineteamtexas](http://www.facebook.com/spineteamtexas).

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