



Andrea Becicka
Spine Team Texas
(817) 749-2141
andrea@spineteamtexas.com

SPINE TEAM TEXAS OPENS NEW ROCKWALL FACILITY

*Full access and quality care from Spine Team's specialized staff
now available in Rockwall*

Rockwall, Texas (October 20, 2008) – Spine Team Texas, a premier facility for back and neck pain treatment, celebrated its expansion into the Rockwall area with a ribbon cutting and open house at its temporary location at 1201 Arista on October 2. Attended by local dignitaries and Spine Team's specialized staff, the sister facility provides full access and care from Spine Team's spine-specialized neurosurgeons, physical medicine and rehabilitation physicians and spine-focused physical therapists. The team's permanent facility, adjacent to Presbyterian Hospital of Rockwall, is slated to be completed in spring 2009.

"Rockwall County has experienced tremendous growth recently, marking a sizeable need for specialized, high-quality spine care," says Dr. David Rothbart, medical director and neurosurgeon at Spine Team Texas. "We are fulfilling a patient need for quality spine care with our full spectrum of spine services in one location. This model has proven to be successful in Southlake, where we are headquartered, and we're excited to bring that kind of patient-focused, comprehensive spine care to Rockwall."

Like the other Spine Team Texas locations, the Rockwall office will focus on non-surgical treatments, resorting to minimally invasive surgery only as a last resort. In fact, the practice continues to stay true to its philosophy of conservatism, as evidenced through a 4 percent decrease in the practice's surgical rate in 2007, despite a 25 percent increase in overall patient visits.

Recently, Spine Team Texas was selected as one of 20 spine treatment practices in the nation selected to study a groundbreaking treatment for lumbar back pain caused by degenerative disk in the lumbar spine. The study, sponsored by Medtronic and approved by the Institutional Review Board (IRB), tests a new outpatient procedure where a soft silicon device, called the DIAM™ Spinal Stabilization System, is placed between two vertebrae to potentially limit pain. It is much less restrictive than spinal fusion and most patients return home within 24 to 48 hours after surgery. In fact, if the patient isn't satisfied, the implant can be removed without altering the anatomy and other treatment options can be considered.

For more information about Spine Team Texas, its new Rockwall facility or the DIAM™ Spinal Stabilization study, please call 817-442-9300.

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About Spine Team Texas

A premier regional spine center of excellence, Spine Team Texas specializes in back and neck problems ranging from simple back or neck strains to the most complex spine surgery. Through its in-depth knowledge and team atmosphere, Spine Team Texas is dedicated to treating patients

conservatively through education, physical therapy, non-surgical treatments, and minimally invasive spine surgery when necessary. The team of physicians specializing in non-surgical spine care, spine-specialized neurosurgeons, spine-focused physical therapists and on-site registered nurses strive to ensure that patients return to everyday activities following treatment. Established in December 2004, Spine Team Texas is headquartered in Southlake, Texas, and has additional offices in Rockwall, Texas, and Bedford, Texas. For more information about Spine Team Texas, visit www.spineteamtexas.com.

About Dr. David Rothbart

A board-certified and fellowship-trained neurosurgeon, David Rothbart, M.D., is the founder of Spine Team Texas, North Texas' premier regional spine center offering diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation to treat neck and back pain. The recipient of several prestigious awards, such as *Fort Worth, Texas Magazine's* "Top Docs 2007," "Top Docs 2008" and *Dallas Business Journal's* "Healthcare Heroes 2007," he has appeared as a regular guest and expert on WFAA's *Good Morning Texas* as an expert in the spine care field. In November 2005, Dr. Rothbart made history by becoming the first neurosurgeon in the world to implant a unique cervical disc replacement. He's a highly sought-after expert in his industry, recognized by his peers through physician education and training seminars, including a May 2007 presentation at the European Section of the Cervical Spine Research Society. Dr. Rothbart trained at Yale University and was the chief resident in neurosurgery and a clinical instructor at Yale-New Haven Medical Center, a teaching hospital of the Yale University School of Medicine. After completing a fellowship at the prestigious Barrow Neurological Institute in Arizona, Dr. Rothbart was in private practice in Chicago, where he was Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery at Rush Medical College. He came to the Dallas metroplex in 2002. For more information about Dr. Rothbart and Spine Team Texas, visit www.spineteamtexas.com.

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