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Note to editors: Photo of Dr. Delamarter available on request

NATIONALLY RENOWNED SPINE SURGEON JOINS CEDARS-SINAI SPINE CENTER

Rick B. Delamarter, M.D. has extensive experience in disc replacement surgery, and has led several large-scale studies on new devices

LOS ANGELES (April 27, 2009) – Rick B. Delamarter, M.D., an expert surgeon who utilizes the most advanced technologies to treat back and spine problems, has joined the faculty of Cedars-Sinai Medical Center as co-director of the Cedars-Sinai Spine Center.

Delamarter, who also will serve as vice chair of Spine Services in Cedars-Sinai's Department of Surgery, has been the principal investigator for dozens of research studies on new artificial discs and has published extensively on research on the spine. He is board certified in orthopaedic surgery.

Delamarter, previously the medical director of The Spine Institute of Santa Monica and an associate clinical professor at the UCLA School of Medicine, is bringing several members of his surgical and research team to the Cedars-Sinai Spine Center, including Drs. Hyun Bae, Timothy Davis, Michael Kropf and Alexandre Rasouli.

"Dr. Delamarter is respected nationally as a surgeon and physician/researcher. His expertise in minimally-invasive back surgery and in artificial disc replacement will further enhance Cedars-Sinai's position as one of the nation's leading spine centers," said Bruce Gewertz, M.D., chair of Cedars-Sinai's Department of Surgery and the Harriet and Steven Nichols Endowed Chair in Surgery.

After earning his medical degree from the University of Oregon Health Science Center, Delamarter completed his surgical internship and orthopaedic residency at UCLA Medical Center. He also completed a spine fellowship at Case Western Reserve University and received training at the Acute Spinal Cord Injury Unit of Cleveland Veteran's Hospital.

Delamarter has won national and international research awards, including the Volvo Award from the International Society for the Study of the Lumbar Spine, as well as awards from the Orthopaedic Research Society and the North American Spine Society. He is actively involved in new spine research and treatments, and has written more than 200 abstracts, articles and book chapters. He has presented his findings at medical conferences and patient forums in the United States and around the world.

(more)

Cedars-Sinai's Spine Center is a comprehensive and advanced spine center dedicated to the evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of all back pain and spinal conditions including degenerative disc disease, herniated and ruptured discs, lower back pain, spinal stenosis, spinal cord tumors and spine trauma.

The center, located at 444 South San Vicente Blvd. in Los Angeles, provides all services in one location, including examinations, X-rays, MRI imaging, physical therapy and pain services. To make an appointment at the Cedars-Sinai Spine Center, call 1-800-CEDARS1 or visit www.cedars-sinai.edu

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