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**New Artificial Cervical Disc Replacement performed at St. Joseph's Hospital**  
*Pars Brain & Spine Institute Neurosurgeon Dr. Rammy Gold first to use  
new PRESTIGE® Artificial Disc in the Mid-Ohio Valley*

**Parkersburg, WV** - Pars Brain & Spine Institute and St. Joseph's Hospital are pleased to announce that Dr. Rammy Gold is the first neurosurgeon in the Mid-Ohio Valley to use the Prestige disc, a new artificial cervical disc implanted during neck surgery. Dr. Gold is a member of the Parkersburg-based Pars Brain and Spine Institute, along with fellow neurosurgeons Dr. Houman Khosrovi and Dr. Abdi Ghodsi.

Dr. Gold implanted the Prestige artificial cervical disc device during a total cervical disc replacement surgery. This procedure is designed to reduce neck pain by replacing the diseased or herniated disc with an implant. The stainless steel Prestige implant offers patients a chance for increased motion in the neck following surgery, unlike other neck surgeries that may require stabilization or fusion to limit motion. The artificial cervical disc is inserted between two vertebra after the degenerative disc has been surgically removed.

"PARS BSI strives to provide state of the art medical care to patients, and we are very pleased to provide our community access to the most recent technological innovations in neurosurgery" said Dr. Gold. "One benefit of the artificial cervical disc technology lies in the potential for increased mobility in the neck after surgery verses fusion treatments. Spinal fusions may still be an option for certain patients, but another option now exists for patients suffering from degenerative disc disease." The Prestige disc is the first artificial disc approved by the FDA for use in the United States, following the largest completed clinical trial to date involving the cervical spine.

"St. Joseph's Hospital strives to provide our patients access to the most innovative technologies and treatment options," Alan King, CEO at St. Joseph's Hospital. "We are proud to partner with the

neurosurgeons from Pars Brain & Spine Institute to provide advanced neurosurgical care in the Mid-Ohio Valley.”

Patients that might benefit from total cervical disc replacement include those:

- Who have had neck or arm pain for at least six (6) weeks that did not respond to non-operative care.
- Needing reconstruction of spinal discs (from C3-C7) following a single-level discectomy for intractable symptomatic cervical disc disease (SCDD).

#### **About Dr. Rammy Gold**

Dr. Gold is a board-certified neurosurgeon and an established physician of the Greater Mid-Ohio Valley for 10 years. He completed his medical education, and his neurosurgical training at Case Western Reserve University. He is an active member of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons, the Congress of Neurological Surgeons, the WV State Neurosurgical Society, and the WV State Medical Society.

#### **About the Pars Brain & Spine Institute**

The Pars Brain & Spine Institute (Pars BSI) is a medical facility dedicated to serving the Mid-Ohio Valley as the premier neurosurgical practice diagnosing and treating disorders of the brain, spine, and peripheral nerves. In addition to a team of three board certified neurosurgeons, Pars BSI employs two additional doctors in the Pars Interventional Pain & Wellness Center, as well as over 50 medical professional, administration, and support staff. Pars BSI is located in Parkersburg, West Virginia. For more information on the Pars Brain & Spine Institute, please visit [www.parsbsi.com](http://www.parsbsi.com)

#### **About St. Joseph's Hospital**

St. Joseph's Hospital is a 325-bed acute care facility located in Parkersburg, West Virginia. Founded in 1900 by the Sisters of Saint Joseph, the hospital boasts state-of-the-art technology and a team of dedicated employees and physicians. St. Joseph's offers comprehensive acute medical care and surgical services on both an inpatient and outpatient basis. The facility is the only open-heart surgery and angioplasty program within a 90-mile radius and was the first permanently designated Level III Trauma Program in the Mid-Ohio Valley. In 2007 St. Joseph's invested more than \$49 million into the Mid-Ohio Valley and the State of West Virginia through taxes, charity care, capital investment and salaries. The hospital was named a Top 100 Hospital by Solucient in 2000. For more information, please visit [www.stjosephs-hospital.com](http://www.stjosephs-hospital.com).

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