## Bangkok Hospital Integrates Specialist Spine Services For Better Managed Care

Bangkok Hospital recently integrated its specialist neuro-surgery and orthopedics services to create the new Full Endoscopic Spine Clinic, offering hope to patients who suffer with long-term back pain.

**Sept. 2, 2008** - <u>*PRLog*</u> -- Bangkok Hospital recently opened the doors of its new Full Endoscopic Spine Clinic. The clinic integrates specialist services from a neuro-surgeon and orthopedic surgeon to offer diagnosis and treatment to back pain sufferers.

The clinic focuses on endoscopic disagnosis and treatment techniques, which involve only minimal incisions being made in the body.

Surgical procedures are carried out with the aid of a miniature camera and precision equipment, guided by the most highly trained surgeons and diagnosticians.

The clinic is recommended for patients who experience severe back pain due to slipped discs, which have not responded to conservative treatments; recurrent leg pain that limits activity, due to back injury; spinal cord compression causing bladder/bowel control problems; and weakness or numbness in legs and feet.

The doctors running the new Full Endoscopic Clinic are Dr.Verapan Kuonsongtum, a neurosurgery and endoscopic spine surgery specialist, and

Dr.Sompoch Paiboonsirijit, an orthopedic and endoscopic spine surgery expert.

These doctors have 17 years experience each in medicine, with over ten years of experience each in their chosen fields.

The doctors are both fluent in English and Thai, with Dr Kuonsongtum also fluent in German.

"We are very proud of the work we do here. And while back surgery has a 95 percent success rate, there is always room for improvement. That's why we look at back problems using both neurological as well as orthopedic schools of thought and have created the most minimally invasive surgery possible," said Dr. Paiboonsirijit.

The clinic also offers non-surgical and natural alternatives for reducing back pain.

Heat and cold therapy is a popular and effective treatment, as are electrical stimulation, hydrotherapy and pain management.

The endoscopic discectomy is not the only surgical procedure that the new clinic will offer.

Where spinal fusion, selective nerve root blocks, or a laminectomy are more appropriate to the problem, these surgeries are also offered.

Around one fifth of all visits to physicians in the US are due to back pain. It has been estimated that nine out of ten adults will experience back pain at some stage of their life, and over half of these will experience it every year to an extent that time of work is required.

The success rate of the endoscopic discectomy surgery that the clinic performs to aid in back pain is more than 85%.

The cost is 190,000 baht (around US\$5,700 at current exchange rates).

For further information please see <u>http://www.bangkokhospital.com/App/NewsEventsDetail.aspx?...</u>

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Bangkok Hospital Medical Center (BMC) is one of the most technologically sophisticated hospitals in the world today.

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