



Medtronic

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MEDTRONIC SURPASSES MILESTONE OF 1,000 NEUROSURGICAL CASES
WITH VISUALASE MRI-GUIDED LASER ABLATION**

Cases Performed in Over 50 Neurosurgical Hospitals

MINNEAPOLIS – December 9, 2014 – Medtronic, Inc. (NYSE: MDT) today announced that it has surpassed a significant milestone for its Visualase® MRI-guided laser ablation system. Over 1,000 Visualase laser ablation cases have been performed for neurosurgery patients at over 50 centers in the United States. The Visualase® system received FDA clearance in July 2007.

"The Visualase laser ablation technology gives neurosurgeons a minimally invasive option to precisely target and treat small areas of tissues," said Dr. Shabbar F. Danish, director, Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and assistant professor, Neurosurgery Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. "I continually seek innovative ways to treat my neurosurgical patients and Visualase offers me an additional option."

"This is a significant milestone for the technology and for the patients it has impacted," said Dr. Daniel J. Curry, associate professor of neurosurgery and Dr. Angus A. Wilfong,

professor of pediatrics, neurology at Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Children's Hospital. "As the pioneers in this arena, we look forward to how we can make this technology available to more patients in the future."

"The Visualase system provides a less invasive option with shorter hospital stays for my patients, as compared to open craniotomy procedures," said Dr. Robert E. Gross, director, Functional, Stereotactic & Epilepsy Surgery and professor, Departments of Neurosurgery, Neurology, Biomedical Engineering, and Neuroscience at Emory University School of Medicine.

"We are extremely grateful for the healthcare professionals who have collaborated on the Visualase laser ablation technology," said Scott Hutton, vice president and general manager for Medtronic Surgical Technologies Neurosurgery. "Medtronic remains committed to providing innovative, integrated neurosurgical solutions to the neurosciences community that better enable them to treat their patients."

About Medtronic Surgical Technologies

The Surgical Technologies business (www.medtronicneurosurgery.com) develops technology solutions for surgical specialties that include: neurosurgery; spinal surgery; orthopedics; ear, nose and throat; and surgical oncology. The business designs, develops, manufactures and supports healthcare providers with advanced surgical navigation and imaging solutions, powered surgical tools and systems, intra-operative nerve monitoring devices, advanced energy-based devices for hemostatic sealing and tissue dissection, and implantable devices for hydrocephalus management.

About Medtronic

Medtronic, Inc. (www.medtronic.com), headquartered in Minneapolis, is the global leader in medical technology – alleviating pain, restoring health and extending life for millions of people around the world.

Any forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties such as those described in Medtronic's periodic reports on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Actual results may differ materially from anticipated results.

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