**Stanmore Implants Launches World’s First Personalised ‘Savile Row’ Knee Replacement System**

12 January 2012 - Stanmore Implants Worldwide (‘Stanmore’), specialists in the design and manufacture of patient specific and modular implants, announces the launch of a unique, fully personalised knee implant system. The first procedure using this approach was successfully performed in the UK in July and early results in the first group of 20 patients to receive the knee so far are very encouraging, with early patient mobility and excellent knee function.

Stanmore’s Savile Row system tailors the whole pathway in early intervention knee surgery to the patient. The Company combines its robotic bone preparation with a patient specific knee design, licensed from Imperial Innovations and based on IP from Imperial College London.

This approach to knee surgery focuses on careful patient selection and uses CT scan data to enable Stanmore to design a personalised and optimised knee implant exactly matched to the patient. This type of knee design is called a unicondylar knee as only one part of the worn knee joint is replaced, leaving healthy, functional tissue in place. By using this approach, minimal bone is removed offering both faster recovery and improved function compared with more invasive traditional techniques, which remove both worn and healthy bone.

Surgeons can directly review and approve each implant using the Company’s online design service; a technology-led video conferencing and electronic communication tool. Once the design has been approved, Stanmore uses computer assisted manufacturing techniques to produce personalised implants in a cost effective manner with great accuracy.

The same knee design is loaded into Stanmore’s Sculptor intra-operative system, which uses a robot arm to ensure that the surgeon accurately prepares the bone surface to match the implant precisely. This high technology approach offers significantly enhanced precision in comparison with the conventional use of hand held saws and metal jigs, which is the current standard method for bone preparation in knee surgery.

Stanmore plans to collaborate with a number of leading UK centres to manage a carefully controlled introduction of this new approach to knee replacement. The approach will also be extended to hips and other joints over time and Stanmore has plans to leverage the technologies harnessed within this system to further enhance its position as a world leader in tumour surgery solutions.

Brian Steer, Executive Chairman of Stanmore, said:

“With this system we have created a tailor made, “Savile Row” approach to knee surgery, which gives patients a completely personalised treatment, from the initial assessment to knee replacement surgery and aftercare. We believe that a patient matched implant using the increased accuracy of our unique robotic technology is a major advance for orthopaedic surgery at little or no extra cost compared to off-the-shelf implants.

“Accurate placement of orthopaedic implants has been shown to be of critical importance to the longevity of the implant, thus avoiding early revision. Robotics and computer assisted navigation, widely used in other surgical specialities, is one of the fastest growing sectors in orthopaedics and Stanmore is ideally placed to continue producing innovative solutions for the worldwide orthopaedic market.”

Professor Justin Cobb, Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery at Imperial College London and orthopaedic surgeon at Charing Cross Hospital, said:
“The Stanmore Sculptor system gives the surgeon access to a new world of surgical precision, enabling them to perform the operation reliably and minimally invasively. Surgeons can now plan knee surgery based upon their patients’ own anatomy and are no longer limited by the sizes available on the hospital shelf. It also gives patients confidence that the latest technology is being used to ensure the procedure runs smoothly.”

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Notes to Editors

Stanmore Implants Worldwide

Stanmore Implants Worldwide is an innovative orthopaedic business focused on the design and manufacture of patient specific primary implants and both bespoke and modular implants for limb sparing and complex primary and revision joint replacement.

Stanmore designs, manufactures and markets a custom implant service alongside a portfolio of orthopaedic implants for primary surgery, limb salvage and complex joint replacement, and is known for creating some of the world’s most successful implants.

Stanmore acquired its robotic bone preparation technology through the acquisition of Acrobot, a medical devices company specialising in computer assisted orthopaedic surgery in August 2010.

For further information visit www.stanmoreimplants.com