



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contacts:

Kerry Anne Watson/Caitlin Levens
(850) 668-2222
clevens@zimmerman.com

Laser Spine Institute Tampa Receives Coveted AAAHC Accreditation

Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care recognizes LSI commitment to patients

TAMPA, Fla. – October 5, 2009 – Laser Spine Institute, leaders in minimally invasive spinal surgery, is **pleased to announce the accreditation of LSI Tampa by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care.** AAAHC accreditation distinguishes LSI’s facilities in Tampa, Fla. and Scottsdale, Ariz. from other outpatient surgical facilities as providing the highest quality of care for patients and a safe work environment for medical staff and employees. Also covered under the Laser Spine Institute umbrella, are the consultation facilities, located in San Diego and The Villages, Fla. and soon to come in Fort Lauderdale and Beverly Hills.

“We believe our patients deserve the best and we strive to attain the highest level of care and safety possible,” explains Bill Horne, LSI chief executive officer, “AAAHC accreditation means that LSI has reached for and met a rigorous set of national health standards ensuring our patients know when they come to an LSI facility, they will receive the best care possible.”

AAAHC accreditation is specifically for organizations that provide diagnostic or medical care on an outpatient basis. To receive accreditation for both the Tampa and Scottsdale facilities, LSI underwent an extensive self-assessment of processes, policies and procedures, and a rigorous on-site two-day survey by the Accreditation Association team. LSI successfully met or exceeded all nationally recognized best practice standards established by AAAHC, providing the highest-level quality of ambulatory care available.

LSI’s flagship Tampa facility boasts seven operating rooms, while it’s 32,000-square-foot sister facility in Scottsdale has four state-of-the-art OR’s, and patients at both have access to MRI imaging, radiology, physical therapy and exam rooms all with the most technologically advanced equipment available. With an incision measuring less than one inch, expert surgeons can treat a variety of back and neck ailments from degenerative disc disease and spinal stenosis, to herniated or bulging discs and spinal arthritis. A streamlined 5-day process allows LSI patients to recover from their minimally invasive endoscopic procedure while enjoying resort amenities at the institute.

-MORE-

At LSI, patients receive all of their spinal health care needs in one location. From pre-operative imaging and diagnostic testing, to endoscopic laser surgery and post-operative physical therapy, patients receive the highest quality care combined with the most advanced treatments.

Former patient and mother, Cheryl Harper found relief and a new outlook after her successful surgery. “The pain took over my life from morning to night. I have two little boys and I was always tired. After surgery, I feel like I’ve added 10 to 20 years onto my life. Now I’m active, and spending time with my family, especially my two little boys.”

Potential candidates with back and neck pain can visit www.laserspineinstitute.com or call toll free 1-877-205-7498 for more information on outpatient, minimally invasive spine surgery and upcoming seminars in cities across the United States.

###

About Laser Spine Institute: Laser Spine Institute offers a successful alternative to traditional open back and neck surgeries. The orthopedic surgeons at LSI can treat painful ailments with endoscopic outpatient procedures. Chronic pain that stems from pinched nerves, herniated discs, bulging discs, degenerative disc disease, spinal stenosis, foraminal stenosis, spinal arthritis, bone spurs and failed open back or neck surgery can be alleviated with Laser Spine Institute’s minimally invasive approach.

The Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC/Accreditation Association), founded in 1979, is the leader in ambulatory health care accreditation with more than 3,600 organizations accredited nationwide. The AAAHC accredits a variety of ambulatory health care organizations, including ambulatory surgery centers, office-based surgery centers, endoscopy centers, college student health centers, and large medical and dental practices. The Accreditation Association serves as an advocate for the provision of high quality health care through the development of nationally recognized standards and through its survey and accreditation programs. AAAHC accreditation is recognized as a symbol of quality by third-party payers, medical organizations, liability insurance companies, state and federal agencies and the public.