

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Laura Latimer
Ascension Orthopedics, Inc.
512-836-5001

ASCENSION ORTHOPEDICS LAUNCHES NUGRIP CMC IMPLANT

AUSTIN, TX — May 3, 2010: Ascension Orthopedics, Inc., a leader in orthopedic extremity implants, announces the launch of the Ascension® NuGrip™ CMC Implant on May 3, 2010. The NuGrip is designed to relieve pain and restore range of motion in the first carpometacarpal (CMC) joint.

The Ascension NuGrip is a joint replacement for the base of the thumb made of PyroCarbon, a material known for its superior wear and biocompatibility characteristics. It is a bone-preserving, reliable alternative to soft tissue reconstruction which is the standard treatment for this indication.

Commenting on his surgical experiences with Ascension's NuGrip, Lorenzo Pacelli, M.D., Scripps Clinic Torrey Pines, La Jolla, CA stated, "The NuGrip implant is a great option for patients with osteoarthritis who are in pain and would like to maintain function. My patients have experienced pain relief and have been able to return to normal daily life activities with the NuGrip."

The Ascension NuGrip CMC implant is a single component which minimizes bone resections and preserves the trapezium. The stem is anatomically designed for a press fit within the intramedullary canal without cement. The specifically-designed stem and collar enhance stability and maintain the anatomy's joint space. The spherical head has an extended circumference which provides maximum opportunity for range of motion within the trapezium. The device offers 8 sizing options to fit patient anatomy.

Guy Mayer, CEO of Ascension Orthopedics noted, "Ascension has established itself as a market leader in innovative products with proven clinical success. We are committed to remaining at the forefront of orthopedic advancements capitalizing on our PyroCarbon technology. The NuGrip is a great addition to our product offerings designed to meet the needs of patients suffering from arthritis of the hand."

Ascension Orthopedics was founded in Austin, Texas in 1996. The company's first product was an innovative pyrolytic carbon total joint replacement for the MCP joint of the hand. Its joint replacement product line has since expanded to include implants for the shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand, foot and ankle. Ascension's mission is to *transform extremities* by developing state-of-the-art orthopedic products for the upper and lower limbs to help patients suffering from pain and dysfunction. Ascension Orthopedics sells products in the United States and in more than 23 countries worldwide. For further information, please visit <http://www.ascensionortho.com/>.

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ASCENSION ORTHOPEDICS, INC.

8700 CAMERON ROAD

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78754

512.836.5001 512.836.6933 FAX