Patient-Matched Technology Works For Patients, Surgeons And System

(PRNewswire) Smith & Nephew have announced the publication of a new study on the value of patient-matched technology for total knee replacement. Published in the *Journal of Arthroplasty (JOA)*, the official Journal of the American Association of Hip and Knee Surgeons, this study specifically looked at the VISIONAIRE patient-matched system from Smith & Nephew.

With the VISIONAIRE system, a surgeon uploads each patient's specific MRI and X-Ray images into Smith & Nephew's proprietary web-based software. An engineer then uses this data to design and build customized surgical instruments that accommodate the unique shapes and angles of each patient's joint. According to the *JOA* study, surgeries that used patient-matched instruments resulted in implants that were a full degree closer to neutral - the body's natural alignment - than those using traditional instrumentation. The accurate placement of an implant has been shown to reduce implant wear and improve the longevity.

Additional key findings in the study are that patient-matched technology reduces the amount of time a patient spent under anaesthesia, shortens a patient's hospital stay and shortens the length of the incision required for knee replacement surgery. Also, because patient-matched technology reduces the number of instrument trays required by 43 percent and eliminates more than 20 surgical steps for each surgery, it may reduce hospital expenses related to total knee replacements by cutting sterilization costs and increasing OR efficiency.

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