N E W S R E L E A S E

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**New Jersey Medical School Professor Joins Presidential Line**

**of Prestigious Spine Society**

NEWARK—Robert Heary, M.D., professor of neurological surgery at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, has joined the presidential line of the Cervical Spine Research Society after being named vice president of the prestigious international organization.

In joining the presidential line, Heary will serve as vice president of the CSRS until later this year, at which time he will assume the role of president-elect of the organization. He is slated to become president of the society during its 43rd Annual Meeting in Toronto, Canada, a move that will make him only the 10th neurosurgeon to hold the position in the organization’s decades-long history.

Boasting a membership of just 200 active members throughout North America, the CSRS is an exclusive organization recognized as a leading authority on diseases of the cervical spine (or neck). As a multidisciplinary organization that promotes clinical and basic research of the cervical spine, the group provides a forum for the exchange of ideas among individuals who work in or who are interested in the field. Founded in 1973, the CSRS is one of the oldest spine societies around.

A 14-year member of the CSRS, Heary has risen through the ranks of the organization, serving on its Board of Directors and holding such leadership roles as the chair of the CSRS’s Research Committee and as the co-director of the “Hands-on Cadaver Workshop,” a course that Heary developed.

In addition to his responsibilities with the CSRS, Heary is an active member of many societies, including the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS), the Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS), the Cervical Spine Research Society, the Lumbar Spine Research Society, the Scoliosis Research Society, the Neurosurgical Society of America and the Society of Neurological Surgeons. He has recently served as chair of the AANS/CNS Joint Section on Disorders of the Spine & Peripheral Nerves and as vice chairman of the AANS Public Relations Committee and the AANS Development Committee. Frequently named to “top doctors” lists, Heary also serves as the director of the Spine Center at New Jersey Medical School and the Neurosurgical Intensive Care Unit at the University Hospital in Newark.

“This is an honor,” said Heary. “To be recognized as an expert in issues related to the cervical spine, is extraordinarily rewarding.”

Heary lives in Summit, N.J., with his wife Cara Talty, and three children, Declan, 8; Maren, 6; and Conor, 1.

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