



Contact: Sonia Robinson, Marketing Coordinator
256-429-4560 / Sonia.robinson@crestwoodmedcenter.com

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CRESTWOOD MEDICAL CENTER FIRST IN HUNTSVILLE OFFER MINIMALLY-INVASIVE
LASER TREATMENT TO CLEAR BLOCKED ARTERIES ABOVE THE KNEE**

FDA-Cleared System Restores Blood Flow to Legs and Feet

HUNTSVILLE, AL – Committed to providing patients with innovative, safe and effective treatments options, Crestwood Medical Center offers the only laser ablation treatment approved to clear blockages in arteries above the knee. Crestwood Medical Center is using Spectranetics' TURBO-Booster to treat Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD) and restore blood flow to the legs and feet.

PAD, a cardiovascular disease that restricts or blocks blood flow in the legs, affects approximately 12 million people in the United States. If left untreated, the condition can lead to sores that do not heal, or heal slowly, gangrene and amputation. Those suffering from PAD are at an increased risk for heart disease, aortic aneurysms and stroke, therefore it is important to recognize early symptoms and seek treatment. Early warning signs may include dull or cramping pain in the buttocks, hips, thighs or calf muscles or numbness or tingling in the leg, foot or toes.

"Two-thirds of all peripheral endovascular procedures occur in arteries above the knee," said Dr. Andrew Knott, Board Certified Vascular Surgeon. "Now we are able to address this problem with a minimally-invasive, proven-effective laser treatment that helps patients quickly get back to an active lifestyle. Anyone experiencing symptoms of PAD should see a doctor immediately. There is no need to suffer from symptoms that lessen your day-to-day quality of life."

The TURBO-Booster™, offered by Colorado Springs-based Spectranetics Corporation, is used with Turbo elite for the removal of large amounts of plaque material within the superficial femoral artery (SFA) and popliteal arteries by producing pulsed bursts of ultraviolet (UV) light energy that vaporize blockages in the arteries into tiny particles that are easily absorbed into the blood stream. TURBO-Booster was cleared by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on July 2, 2007.

About Peripheral Artery Disease

Peripheral Artery Disease is a serious condition that causes blood vessels in the legs, and sometimes arms, to become restricted or blocked; this may occur suddenly if an embolism or clot develops rapidly in the restricted blood vessels. PAD is progressive and often causes gangrene or tissue death of the affected area if not properly treated. PAD affects approximately twelve million people in the United States. More than half of those suffering from PAD experience leg pain, numbness or other symptoms. Approximately 75 percent of those suffering go undiagnosed. Many don't seek medical attention as the symptoms are often overlooked as a typical part of the aging process.

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