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PRESS RELEASE

HYGEIA S.A.: Waist pains are now treated by neuronavigation

The first spinal fusion operation (spondylodesis) using a state-of-the-art neuronavigation system was performed successfully in Greece at HYGEIA Hospital.

The operation was performed on a 65-year-old woman who suffered from severe stenosis and mechanical instability of the lumbar spine, which caused constant pains on the waist and the lower limbs.

The surgeons of HYGEIA, Dr. Panagiotis Nomikos, Neurosurgeon, and Dr. Ioannis Karnezis, Orthopaedic Surgeon, used the Medtronic Synergy StealthStation neuronavigation system to perform a complete microsurgical decompression of the affected nerve root and to stabilize the area using a system that constantly recorded "evoked potentials" of the spinal nerves to ensure their smooth functionality during the procedure.

After the end of the operation, Dr. P. Nomikos, Neurosurgeon, said "The modern neuronavigation systems serve as "information centers" and thus provide the surgeon with the most accurate 3-dimensional image of the patient's anatomy. This allows us to perform a safe, atraumatic and quick procedure and it actually eliminates the possibility of false instalment of materials or injury on sensitive tissues, such as the spinal nerves and the bone marrow."

Dr. I. Karnezis, Orthopaedic Surgeon, also said that "Synergy StealthStation neuronavigation system facilitates sophisticated vertebral surgical operations. It utilises a streamlined computer system and pre-surgical (CT and MRI) images and "guides" the surgeon accurately during the procedure. It can therefore perfect the ability of a specialized surgeon to perform sophisticated operations successfully."

The HYGEIA spine surgery team are pioneers of this modern method and dynamically enter a new era of surgical treatment for vertebral column lesions.

