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**PRESS RELEASE**

**HYGEIA: Computer-Assisted Neuronavigation surgery  
to correct congenital scoliosis**

The first ever Computer-Assisted Neuronavigation surgery in Greece to correct congenital scoliosis on a 4-year-old patient was successfully performed at HYGEIA Hospital.

Congenital scoliosis, a relatively rare type of scoliosis, is caused by vertebral malformations during gestation, i.e. before birth. The 4-year-old girl had been born with a significant degree of anatomical malformations in her thoracic spine. As a result, she developed thoracic scoliosis at a very early stage, which significantly affected her respiratory function, since she was at an age when the lungs still develop.

With the kind pro-bono contribution of the HYGEIA Group, as well as HYGEIA Orthopedic Surgeon Dr. Ioannis Karnezis and Neurosurgeon Dr. Panagiotis Nomikos, the 4-year-old underwent an extremely delicate and complicated procedure to restore the malformations of the vertebrae, as well as restore and stabilize the deformity of her spine and chest. The procedure was utterly successful, despite the technical difficulties associated with her delayed presentation for specialized medical treatment.

It is the first time ever in Greece that surgical correction of congenital scoliosis is performed with the use of Computer-Assisted Neuronavigation, a state-of-the-art method which helps in achieving very precise orientation in the operative field. The specialized postoperative care provided by the multidisciplinary ICU of the MITERA Children's Hospital (part of HYGEIA Group) headed by Anaesthesiologist and ICU specialist Dr Georgios Kyrvasilis played a pivotal role in the successful outcome.

The patient's surgeons, Drs. I. Karnezis and P. Nomikos expressed their entire satisfaction with the outcome of the procedure and added, "Everything went exactly as planned, without any complications. We can now be certain that the young patient, whom we will continue to follow-up closely throughout her development, is expected to overcome any difficulties that would have laid ahead and will enjoy a normal life. We are delighted that it is now possible to undertake such procedures in our country [Greece]".