



MEDIA RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

A NEW HOPE FOR PEOPLE WITH CHRONIC SINUS CONDITIONS

Lake Havasu City, AZ – November 23, 2009 – Each year, more than thirty-seven million Americans suffer from serious sinus problems or sinusitis, and for many sinus surgery – which involves bone and tissue removal – was their only hope for relief. Now there’s a new procedure that keeps your bones and tissue intact. Balloon Sinuplasty, a recently developed FDA-approved procedure, is now being performed at the Havasu Surgery Centre.

Balloon Sinuplasty, which is done at an outpatient visit, involves gently placing a small flexible balloon through the nostril into the blocked sinus passageway. According to Dr. Devin Cuning, a board-certified Ear, Nose & Throat and Sleep physician on staff at Havasu Regional Medical Center and Havasu Surgery Centre, “This minimally invasive procedure takes about 45 minutes and involves using a small catheter and balloon to quickly open and expand blocked sinuses, restoring normal sinus drainage and function. In select patients Balloon Sinuplasty can be done without removing any tissue or bone, which results in less discomfort and a faster recovery.” Dr. Cuning is the first physician in the Lake Havasu area to offer this technology.

Sinusitis is a common chronic healthcare problem. It significantly impacts patients physically, functionally and emotionally and takes a toll on quality of life. Historically, treatment has been limited to medical therapy or conventional surgery. For some patients, medical therapy is not adequate, thus surgery is their next hope in finding relief. Generally, sinus surgery is a major operation that requires tissue and bone removal to open up blocked sinus passageways, and instead of undergoing this surgery, many patients elect to live with painful sinus conditions.

Havasu Regional Medical Center is a fully-accredited and licensed 181 bed general-acute care hospital with an on-campus rehabilitation inpatient facility. It is part of the Brentwood, Tennessee-based Lifepoint Hospitals (NASDAQ: LPNT), a leading hospital company focused on providing healthcare services in non-urban communities in 18 states, including Valley View Medical Center in Fort Mohave, Arizona.

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