

# NEWS RELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

### **Harbin Neurosurgeon is Featured Speaker at Georgia Neurological Surgery Society Meeting: Sharing Knowledge and Technique offers other Surgeons across State Exposure to Latest Technology**

ROME, GA (November 30, 2010)— John Cowan, Jr., M.D., Harbin Clinic Neurosurgeon, shared his expertise and technical experience with minimally invasive spine surgery at the Georgia Neurological Surgery Society Meeting in Buckhead on November 20.

Dr. Cowan spoke to fellow neurosurgeons from across the state with the purpose of exposing them to the latest technology in minimally invasive spinal surgery and helping them learn how to implement this technique in their practices. His technical presentation focused on minimally invasive spine surgery using computer assisted image guidance.

“Organizers of the meeting wanted to present the latest technology being utilized throughout the state. They asked me to speak on what we’re doing in Rome,” Cowan said.

Major advancements in technology now allow many complex surgeries to be done using computer assisted image guidance resulting in shorter hospital stays and less pain with minimal invasion of tissue and minimal blood loss.

During the presentation Dr. Cowan said that he showed surgeons how to incorporate this equipment into their OR and gave technical tips of performing these operations. “We are one of the first in the State to incorporate this technology into our daily practice,” Cowan added.

Dr. Cowan hopes that as a result of the presentation others will begin using this type of technology. In January, Dr. Cowan will host several surgeons who are coming to observe him in the operating room using this technology.

“Ultimately, it’s about patients and how they will benefit from this technology across the state,” Cowan added. “It speaks well for the medical community in Rome that we can be on the forefront of this technology and be seen as a leader in the field” he concluded.

Dr. Cowan is one of Harbin Clinic’s three-member team of neurosurgeons providing this outstanding care to spinal, cranial, and trauma care patients. Carl Herring, M.D., and Andy Stevens, M.D., completes the trio. The Harbin Clinic Neurosurgery team uses the O-ARM, a multi-plane, three dimensional imaging system to perform the computer assisted image guidance during their minimally invasive surgeries.

Dr. Cowan is a member of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons and the American Association of Neurological Surgeons. He was elected to the AANS Young Neurosurgeons Committee in 2009. The Cartersville native received his Bachelor of Science degree in Physics from Davidson College in Davidson, North Carolina. Dr. Cowan completed his Neurosurgery residency and General Surgery internship at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor. He completed his Medical Doctorate degree from Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore. In 2008, he joined Harbin Clinic.

Harbin Clinic is Georgia's largest physician-owned multi-specialty clinic. With close to 200 doctors and extenders in 20 locations, Harbin Clinic provides care to thousands of people in North Georgia and parts of Alabama and Tennessee.

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