

NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact: Robin Hice,
Marketing Coordinator,
rhice@harbinclinic.com

For Immediate Release

ROME, GA, May 12, 2010 – The first surgery in the United States to implant a downsized defibrillator was performed, May 12, 2010 by Harbin Clinic Cardiovascular Surgeon Robert P. Styperek, M.D., F.A.C.C. The surgery took place in the heart surgery suite at Redmond Regional Medical Center.

The downsized defibrillator is an implantable medical device to regulate heart rhythms in patients at risk for sudden cardiac death. Developed by St. Jude Medical, the new device replaces much larger similar devices providing greater comfort for the patient and a shorter procedure time.

Dr. Styperek said, “These devices offer a number of new features designed to address many of the clinical issues facing our patients while still delivering the reliability, power and longevity I expect from a St. Jude Medical Device.” Dr. Styperek, who is the Director of Electrophysiology at Redmond Regional, also said, “The devices’ smaller shape, combined with the SJ4 connector system, streamlines the implant procedure and

can make the device more comfortable for patients. To get accustomed to this outstanding improvement, all I need to do now is shorten the length of my incision.”

Redmond Regional CEO Brenda Waltz said, “This is just one more way Redmond is stepping up as NWGA’s Heart Hospital to provide complete cardiac care for the citizens of Rome and Floyd County.

“We congratulate Dr. Styperek in providing this leading technology at Redmond.”

Redmond Regional Medical Center is the only 24/7 complete heart and vascular care center in Northwest Georgia, offering the only dedicated electrophysiology lab treating abnormal and sometimes dangerous heart rhythms.

Harbin Clinic is Georgia’s largest physician-owned multi-specialty clinic. With approximately 160 doctors and extenders in 20 locations, Harbin Clinic provides care to thousands of people in North Georgia and parts of Alabama, and Tennessee.

###