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Portland Orthopaedics' New Cemented Hip completes Hip Replacement Product range.

Cemented hip added to product offering to cover entire total hip market range

Portland Orthopaedics Limited (ASX:PLD) has finalised design of a modular cemented hip replacement product, in preparation for testing and submission for approval to the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). These approvals are expected by December 2006.

Cemented implants are generally used in older less active patients. The benefits of cemented implants include rapid fixation, which in turn allows patients to stress the implant sooner. This can be particularly important with older patients who cannot remain immobile for long periods of time due to health concerns.

With the introduction of the cemented system, Portland will cover all total hip market segments when added to Portland's M-COR primary hip product which is hammered into place and its revision DTC hip that is screwed into the bone.

Cemented hip replacements involve adding a bone cement mixture to fix the new hip prosthesis into the top of the thigh bone (femur). Cemented hips represent 15-20 percent of all hip replacements performed and in 2003 represented close to a \$US550 million world market.

Like all Portland Orthopaedics replacement hips, the cemented hip is innovative. When approved, this will be the only 2-piece modular cemented hip on the US market. The modular design gives the surgeon considerably greater scope to make adjustments to size to optimise fitting thereby increasing clinical outcomes.

"All Portland's hip products have strong points of difference that will significantly help surgeons and patients with better fitting and potentially longer lasting hip implants," said Mr David Sekel, managing director of Portland Orthopaedics. "All going well, the new cemented hip will have its first US and Australian sales in calendar 2006."

"The first prototypes will be manufactured by Portland's in-house team using in-house specialist instrumentation and machinery. Modularity in cemented hips has become possible as Portland's existing patent pending technology is utilised in our M-Thor specialised instrumentation which enables the locking of the two pieces of the hip together without disturbing the cement mantle".

"Portland's prospectus fund raising in December 2005 was based on Portland expanding its product suite and boosting distribution and sales. We are rapidly delivering on these commitments."

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