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Contact: Thomas Rosenberger, APR  
Communications Department  
513-569-5260

Cindy Starr, MSJ  
Communications Department  
513-584-0879

**Mayfield Clinic Finalizes Plans for Ambulatory Spine Surgery Center in Norwood**

CINCINNATI: The Mayfield Clinic announced plans today for the development of an ambulatory spine surgery center/office center on the Cornerstone at Norwood Corporate Campus in Norwood, following approval of final plans by the city of Norwood.

The 23,500 square-foot facility will be centrally located on the Cornerstone at Norwood property, directly across I-71 from Rookwood Pavilion, an upscale shopping complex in Norwood. The facility will include a surgery center, designated for outpatient spine surgical procedures and pain relief procedures, and will provide discharge on the same day as surgery. While there are several ambulatory surgery centers throughout Greater Cincinnati, Mayfield is developing the first spine surgery center in this region. Spine ambulatory surgery centers are less common because many spine procedures historically required a multiple-day stay. However, many new technologies and approaches greatly reduce patient recovery time, thereby eliminating the need to perform those procedures in acute care facilities or trauma centers.

“We are anxious to get construction underway,” said Michael J. Gilligan, President and CEO of Mayfield. “Mayfield physicians and staff have planned for this spine center for many months. We have listened to our patients and our referring physicians and understand what they want and need. Our physicians have visited some other advanced spine centers and have evaluated the strengths and weaknesses of each. We know that technology is changing rapidly, allowing more and more patients to avoid the intensity of an inpatient hospital stay. We have considered all of this and believe we will offer Cincinnati a service and facility that will be among the most advanced in the country.”

506 Oak Street • Cincinnati, Ohio • 45219-2552  
513-221-1100 • 800-325-7787 • FAX 513-569-5279  
[www.mayfieldclinic.com](http://www.mayfieldclinic.com)

*Affiliates: Mayfield Spine Institute • Mayfield Imaging Center • Precision Radiotherapy  
University of Cincinnati Department of Neurosurgery • The Neuroscience Institute  
Offices: Anderson • Clifton • Crestview Hills • Grant County • Montgomery • Mt. Auburn • West Chester • Western Hills*

“With the addition of the Mayfield building, this continues a trend of outstanding companies who have chosen to relocate their businesses to Cornerstone at Norwood,” stated Dobbs Ackermann, site developer and President of the Ackermann Group. “The Mayfield building is a beautiful, state-of-the-art design that will make it a focal point of the Cornerstone corporate campus.”

Plans call for two large operating rooms, with expansion capability to three, and a pain relief procedure suite. A large, open lobby will greet patients and loved ones, providing a comfortable, welcoming, and accessible environment. Treatment areas and preoperative / postoperative environments will place a premium on comfort and privacy. Patient areas will be accessible and efficient, yet conducive to individual needs. The most up-to-date technology is also in the plans, ensuring every option for same-day-surgery patients, whether that be minimally invasive surgical techniques and pain relief procedures or other spine surgery. “We have taken the time to look at every detail to ensure we are making the right choices for our patients,” Gilligan said.

Mayfield physicians, and possibly some other community physicians, will be practicing at the facility when it opens in the fall of 2006.

While Mayfield has had discussions with a local hospital system about a potential partnership, no such plans have been finalized. “The Greater Cincinnati hospital community is important to us. We will continue to work closely with all of the hospitals we currently serve in Greater Cincinnati,” said Ronald Warnick, MD, Chairman of the Board at Mayfield.

Recognized worldwide for excellence in the neurosciences, the Mayfield Clinic & Spine Institute specializes in treating diseases and disorders of the brain, spine, peripheral nerves, and blood vessels of the neck and brain. An international referral center, Mayfield has offices throughout Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky and is affiliated with the UC Department of Neurosurgery, The Neuroscience Institute, the Mayfield Imaging Center, and Precision Radiotherapy.

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