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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HACKLEY HOSPITAL PURCHASES INNOVATIVE ROBOTIC SURGICAL SYSTEM

Muskegon, MI, March 28, 2006 -- Hackley Hospital has purchased the da Vinci®S™ Surgical System, the latest advancement in robotic surgical technology. Hackley Hospital is the only healthcare system along the lakeshore to offer this most advanced surgical support system and one of the first in the nation with the newest da Vinci model.

The da Vinci S Surgical System expands a surgeon's technical capabilities and provides patients with a minimally invasive surgical option for many complex procedures. While the System has multi-specialty applications, Hackley Hospital will initially launch this new technology for Prostatectomy (prostate) surgery beginning in spring 2006.

The da Vinci S Surgical System is a sophisticated robotic platform, which consists of an ergonomic surgeon's console, a patient-side cart with four interactive robotic arms, a high-performance 3-D vision system and proprietary EndoWrist® instruments. "The da Vinci System is another example of Hackley Hospital's commitment to leading-edge medical technology and we are proud of this investment for our community," says Gordon A. Mudler, Hackley Hospital President/CEO. "It brings a world-class treatment option close to home for patients from along the lakeshore."

"The use of the da Vinci S has become the fastest growing treatment available for prostate cancer in the United States," says J. Michael Ratchford, M.D., Vice President, Medical Affairs. "The integration of computer-enhanced technology with the surgeons' expertise results in breakthrough surgical capabilities and Hackley Hospital's medical team is eager to provide this remarkable treatment for their patients."

Surgeons using this System over a traditional approach experience greater surgical precision, increased range of motion, improved dexterity, enhanced visualization and improved access. "Using this new and innovative technology, we will have the capability to perform the most advanced, minimally invasive surgical therapy for prostate cancer available," says Kevin Stone, M.D., West Shore Urology. "Best of all, patients may experience a shorter hospital stay, less pain, less blood loss, less scarring, and a quicker return to normal daily activities with this new technique."

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The da Vinci S System is the second-generation system of Intuitive Surgical, Inc, the technology leader in robotic-assisted surgery. It was released in January and features faster set-up times and rapid instrument exchange, multi-quadrant access, and multi-image display capabilities. The initial System was launched in January 1999 and was FDA approved in 2000.

Founded in 1902, Hackley Hospital is an acute care, community not-for-profit hospital with the lakeshore's only comprehensive cancer center, a renowned emergency department, an inpatient psychiatric unit and the area's largest occupational center. Hackley Hospital is a member of the Hackley Health System which consists of the region's largest primary care network, Visiting Nurse Services and Hospice, Hackley Lakeshore Hospital of Shelby, Child & Family Services, Hackley Pharmacies, Hackley Healthcare Equipment, Hackley Health Management, Hackley Hearing Center and Hackley Orthotics and Prosthetics.

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