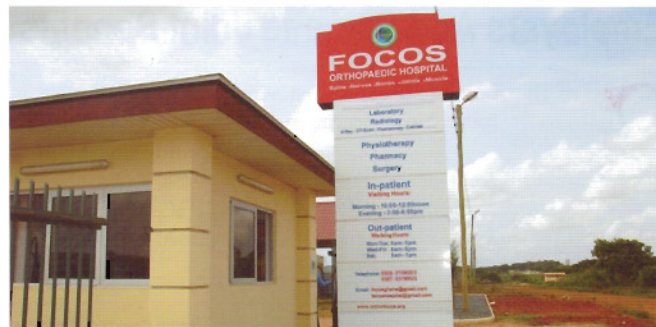


## gSource Makes Fifth Instrument Donation to FOCOS

gSource, LLC is pleased to announce a fifth donation of their surgical instruments to the Foundation of Orthopedics and Complex Spine (FOCOS), a nonprofit organization founded in 1998 by Dr. Oheneba Boachie-Adjei, a world renowned spine surgeon, innovator, and professor.

The donated instruments, valued at \$9,870, will be provided to the FOCOS Orthopedic Hospital in Accra, Ghana, for use in complex spine and pediatric orthopedic disorders. Including this donation, gSource has given instruments valued at \$35,270. The FOCOS mission is to be able to provide quality care and improve life for those in Ghana and other countries. To date, FOCOS volunteers have performed over 1,500 corrective orthopedic and joint procedures for adult and pediatric populations. The hospital is aiming to complete more than 225 surgeries in 2015.

Asked what makes FOCOS special, gSource President Gerd Billmann told *OTW*, "FOCOS is special to gSource because of a common thread we share in terms of our core competency and



Orthopedic Hospital in Ghana Entrance/Courtesy of FOCOS

the desire to help those in need. gSource's core competency is surgical instruments for orthopedic and spinal procedures, and these are exactly the types of complex procedures performed in the FOCOS Orthopedic Hospital in Ghana. gSource contributes high quality instruments needed most by the hospital. The high quality instrumentation helps the FOCOS volunteer surgeons to perform at their best during these procedures. As a socially responsible company, we recognize the need to act and make meaningful contributions to improve the wellbeing of the patients served by the FOCOS Orthopedic Hospital who so desperately need these life-saving surgeries." —EH

## Thinner Plates for Medtronic's Latest FDA-Cleared Cervical Plate

The FDA has cleared Medtronic plc's latest anterior cervical plate system for anterior cervical discectomy with fusion (ACDF) procedures.

The ZEVO system is now commercially available for the treatment of "cervical disc disease, trauma, tumors, deformity, pseudoarthrosis, and/or failed previous fusions," according to a company announcement. The system features lower-profile plates with minimal thick-

ness (1.9mm and 2.1mm) while increasing the stability of the construct for the 4-5 level options.

In a May 4, 2015 announcement, the company said the system features shorter plating options coupled with hyper-screw angulations, "allowing the physician to select the smallest possible plate for the patient's individual surgical needs while securing the plate as far as possible from the adjacent disc." The company cited literature which shows this technique may lower the incidence of Adjacent Level Ossification Development (ALOD) or bone growth next to the treated level.

Doug King, president of Medtronic's spine business, said versatility is important in ACDF procedures and that this system was designed to give surgeons more options.

### Thinner Plates, Hyper Screw Angulation

Richard Hynes, M.D., a spine surgeon at The B.A.C.K. Center in Melbourne, Florida, said, "Improved, thinner plates are important in ACDF procedures. ZEVO embodies these characteristics,

with the added benefits of hyper screw angulations, which can be directed away from the spinal cord."

The system's plate and bone screw components, according to the company, are intended for anterior interbody screw fixation from C2-T1. "The indications and contraindications of spinal instrumentation systems should be well understood by the surgeon. The plate and bone screw components are indicated for use in the temporary stabilization of the anterior spine during the development of spinal fusions in patients with: 1) degenerative disc disease (as defined by neck pain of discogenic origin with degeneration of the disc confirmed by patient history and radiographic studies), 2) trauma (including fractures), 3) tumors, 4) deformity (defined as kyphosis, lordosis, or scoliosis), 5) pseudoarthrosis, and/or 6) failed previous fusions."

Risks of the system include "early or late loosening of any or all components and the development of new radiculopathy, myelopathy or pain, and/or tissue or nerve damage caused by improper positioning and placement of implants or instruments." —WE



ZEVO Cervical Plate/Courtesy of Medtronic plc