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NEWS RELEASE

Johnson & Johnson Launches VIRTUGUIDE™ AI-Powered Patient-Matched Lapidus System in U.S. to Reduce Complexity in Bunion Surgery for Millions

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Early VIRTUGUIDE™ surgeons report a 30-minute reduction in surgical time versus traditional treatment[1,2],*,**

WEST CHESTER, Penn., July 29, 2025 /PRNewswire/ -- Johnson & Johnson (NYSE: JNJ) – Johnson & Johnson MedTech, a global leader in orthopaedic technologies and solutions, today announced the launch of the **VIRTUGUIDE™ System**. This AI-powered, patient-matched solution is designed to support Lapidus procedures[2], a type of bunion surgery that helps realign the foot by joining two bones near the arch (the first metatarsal bone and the medial cuneiform).[3] The system uses pre-operative planning software, developed in collaboration with PeekMed®, to assess each patient's bunion and make personalized recommendations for the intended correction.[2]

Bunions are among the most common foot problems, affecting nearly one-third of adults in the U.S.[4], yet traditional Lapidus surgery to treat the condition is often challenging.[5,6] The VIRTUGUIDE™ AI Lapidus System addresses this by enabling a streamlined approach and reducing surgical complexity.[2]** Early users estimated procedural time savings of at least 30 minutes when using the system compared to their previous technique.[1,]*

"VIRTUGUIDE™ has completely transformed my approach to bunion surgery, making a complex Lapidus procedure significantly easier and faster. Since adopting VIRTUGUIDE™, my surgical corrections have been spot-on—what I plan preoperatively is exactly what I achieve in the operating room," said Michael Campbell, M.D., FAAOS, a board-certified orthopaedic surgeon at Atlantic Orthopaedic Specialists.[±] "This improved accuracy leads to better outcomes, and the ability to present the pre-operative plan to my patients helps address their questions and ease their concerns[§]."

"The VIRTUGUIDE™ System is a pivotal advancement in AI-powered surgical precision for treating bunion deformities—a common, painful, and potentially debilitating condition affecting nearly one-third of Americans[4]," said Oray Boston, Worldwide President of Trauma, Extremities, Craniomaxillofacial, Animal Health and Sports Medicine, Orthopaedics, Johnson & Johnson MedTech. "This milestone marks an important step forward, as VIRTUGUIDE™ becomes the latest addition to our growing portfolio of VELYS™ Enabling Tech solutions. By automating surgical planning and tailoring instrumentation to each patient, the system helps reduce complexity in the operating room and helps surgeons to achieve the intended correction[2,7]**."

This launch follows the 510(k) clearance from the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) for the Pre-operative Planning Software, granted earlier this year.‖ The system is now available in the U.S. For more information, visit **https://www.jnjmedtech.com/en-US/product/virtuguide-system**.

Orthopaedic Solutions from Johnson & Johnson MedTech

Across Johnson & Johnson, we are tackling the world's most complex and pervasive health challenges. In Orthopaedics, we are on a mission to keep people moving by leveraging our deep expertise in joint reconstruction, robotics and enabling tech, spine, sports, trauma, and extremities, to develop the next generation of medtech solutions. We offer one of the most comprehensive Orthopaedics portfolios in the world that helps heal and restore movement for the millions of patients we serve. For more, visit our **website** or follow us on **LinkedIn**.

About Johnson & Johnson

At Johnson & Johnson, we believe health is everything. Our strength in healthcare innovation empowers us to build a world where complex diseases are prevented, treated, and cured, where treatments are smarter and less invasive, and solutions are personal. Through our expertise in Innovative Medicine and MedTech, we are uniquely positioned to innovate across the full spectrum of healthcare solutions today to deliver the breakthroughs of tomorrow and profoundly impact health for humanity. Learn more about our MedTech sector's global scale and deep expertise in cardiovascular, orthopaedics, surgery and vision solutions at **https://thenext.jnjmedtech.com**. Follow us at **@JNJMedTech** and on **LinkedIn**. DePuy Synthes Products, Inc. is a Johnson & Johnson company.

Cautions Concerning Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 regarding the VIRTUGUIDE™ System. The reader is cautioned not to rely on these forward-looking statements. These statements are based on current expectations of future events. If underlying assumptions prove inaccurate or known or unknown risks or uncertainties materialize, actual results could vary materially from the expectations and projections of Johnson & Johnson. Risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to: uncertainty of commercial success; challenges to patents; competition, including technological advances, new products and patents attained by competitors; manufacturing difficulties and delays; product efficacy or safety

concerns resulting in product recalls or regulatory action; changes to applicable laws and regulations, including global health care reforms; changes in behavior and spending patterns of purchasers of health care products and services; and trends toward health care cost containment. A further list and descriptions of these risks, uncertainties and other factors can be found in Johnson & Johnson's most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K, including in the sections captioned "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" and "Item 1A. Risk Factors," and in Johnson & Johnson's subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Copies of these filings are available online at **www.sec.gov**, **www.jnj.com** or on request from Johnson & Johnson. Johnson & Johnson does not undertake to update any forward-looking statement as a result of new information or future events or developments.

Important Information: Prior to use, refer to the instructions for use supplied with the device(s) or indications, contraindications, warnings and precautions.

* Statements are based on responses from 10 surgeons, having completed a total of 150 Lapidus procedures using the VIRTUGUIDE™ System. The statements reflect surgeon experience, not clinical outcomes, and were included if at least 6 surgeons agreed.
** VIRTUGUIDE™ System compared to Treace Medical Lapiplasty® 3-Plane System and Paragon28 Bun-Yo-Matic Lapidus Clamp System.
± Dr. Michael Campbell, M.D., FAAOS is a paid consultant for Johnson & Johnson MedTech.
§These statements reflect the experience, approach and opinion of the surgeon.
‖ The VIRTUGUIDE™ Planning Software, powered by PeekMed®, is developed and owned by Peek Health, S.A. Refer to **help.peekmed.com** for user manuals, FAQ's, or any support.
The third-party trademarks used herein are trademarks of their respective owners.

[1] Johnson & Johnson MedTech, VIRTUGUIDE™ System Early Surgeon Experience Report December 2024, Windchill Document# EM24-0028
[2] Johnson & Johnson and its affiliates VIRTUGUIDE™ System Feature Memo. 9th Dec 2024. Windchill # EM24-0027.
[3] American Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Society. Lapidus Procedure. FootCareMD. Accessed June 24, 2025. **https://www.footcaremd.org/conditions-treatments/toes/lapidus-procedure**
[4] MedlinePlus. Bunion: Genetic and Environmental Causes. U.S. National Library of Medicine. Available at **https://medlineplus.gov/genetics/condition/bunion/**. Accessed March 2025.
[5] Rupke T. The modified Lapidus procedure for the treatment of moderate to severe hallux valgus. Orthogate. Published October 30, 2013. Accessed June 26, 2025. **https://www.orthogate.org/articles/foot-and-ankle/81306-the-modified-lapidus-procedure-for-the-treatment-of-moderate-to-severe-hallux-valgus**
[6] Faran JM, Lin J, Hamid KS, Lee S. Technical tip: kerfing for Lapidus arthrodesis: deformity correction with minimal

Foran IM, Lin J, Hamid KS, Lee S. Technical tip: kerning for Lapidus arthrodesis: deformity correction with minimal bone resection. J Foot Ankle Surg. 2021;60(2):424-427. doi:10.1053/j.jfas.2020.10.004

[7] Sobrón FB, Santos-Vaquinhas AD, Alonso B, et al. Technique tip: 3D printing surgical guide for pes cavus midfoot osteotomy. J Foot and Ankle Surgery. 2022;28:371-377.

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