

# News Release

For Immediate Release

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## First Patient Specific Total Ankle Joint Performed At Naples Community Hospital

(Naples, FL, December 12, 2018) 20 years ago, Steven of Naples, FL, began experiencing significant ankle pain and quickly scheduled an appointment with his doctor to address the issue. When his doctor asked him to reflect on what might have caused the irritation, Steven remembered twisting his left ankle while playing high school football team decades prior. It was the only injury to his ankle that he could remember, so Steven and his doctor decided that his ankle likely was injured at the time of the twist and had since deteriorated over time.

After consulting several physicians Steven became frustrated. He was given a soft brace and a boot, but his pain was unrelenting. Steven remained active in spite of the pain, “I told one physician that my ankle hurt most when I played racquetball with my friends. That physician told me I should “stop playing racquetball,” I was floored. When he suggested I have an ankle fusion, where the two bones are fused with one another, I knew it wasn’t the option for me. I was looking to increase my mobility, not limit it permanently.”

Steven continued to deal with the pain as best he could and would wear the soft brace he was given, even though it offered very little support. His ankle pain got increasingly worse. The constant movement caused the two bones to grind against one another leaving Chuck in constant pain.

Frustrated, Chuck decided to go to a new doctor to discuss his ankle issues. This is when he was referred to Dr. Eugene Batelli at Associates In Medicine and Surgery in Naples, FL. Dr. Batelli reviewed Steven’s X-Rays and confirmed the damage in his left ankle. Together they discussed two treatment options – total ankle replacement and a procedure that would provide temporary relief and would likely require total ankle replacement down the road. Sick of living in constant, nagging pain, Steven elected to have a total ankle replacement.

On December 5, 2018, Dr. Batelli implanted the Wright Medical Prophecy<sup>®</sup> Total Ankle Replacement into Steven’s left ankle. This was the first patient specific total ankle joint replacement to be performed at Naples Community Hospital, Naples, FL.

The Prophecy<sup>®</sup> Total Ankle Replacement is intended to be used to treat patients with ankle joints damaged by severe arthritis or a failed previous ankle surgery. The Prophecy<sup>®</sup> Total Ankle Replacement is intended to give patients limited mobility by reducing pain and restoring movement in the ankle.

Not everyone is a good candidate for the INBONE<sup>®</sup> Total Ankle Replacement. Talk to your doctor to discuss your lifestyle and health to find out if surgery with the INBONE<sup>®</sup> Total Ankle Replacement is a good option for you. INFINITY-PROPHECY<sup>®</sup> starts with a painless CT scan of your ankle and lower leg and pre-operative planning tools that results in a 3-dimensional custom implant system. Accurately depicting the unique properties of your ankle, the model becomes a precise surgical tool that guides bone cutting, joint alignment, pin insertion, and custom instrumentation. Wright’s INFINITY-PROPHECY<sup>®</sup> implant system allows Dr. Batelli to perform a virtual ankle replacement in advance of your surgery. Its designed specifically for you and your lifestyle.

Many factors contribute to the length of hospital stay and rehabilitation. These factors include, but are not limited to, your age and health at the time of surgery as well as your surgeon's determination of the appropriate hospital stay and rehabilitation. Additionally, there are risks associated with ankle replacement surgery such as pain and bruising, damage to blood vessels or nerves, infection, or blood clots that can travel to your heart or lungs. If you experience these complications, your hospital stay may be extended.

Dr. Batelli is double board certified by the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery in foot surgery and reconstructive rearfoot and ankle surgery. There are roughly 600 double board certified podiatric surgeons in the United States. Dr. Batelli received extensive training in ankle and foot surgery as well as sports medicine. He actively treats professional athletes in football, international soccer, marathon runners, and consults for Ave Maria University Athletics.