



**For immediate release**

## **BIORTHEX ANNOUNCES EXCELLENT *IN-VIVO* RESULTS FOR THE ACTIPORE-PLF INTERVERTEBRAL IMPLANT**

**Montreal, CANADA, JUNE 12 2001** – The company's management recently announced its intention to focus efforts and resources on the development and marketing of products derived from its revolutionary porous biomaterial, Actipore™.

The company obtained excellent results from pre-clinical trials involving 50 patients, and today announced its first *in-vivo* results comparing Actipore™ and a leading product with a significant share in the market of implants used for treating lumbar pain.

The global market for spine-related products is estimated at over \$2 billion (US), and is growing rapidly. The treatment of lumbar pain associated with disk degeneration requires the use of surgical implants enabling two or three vertebra to be fused together. However, the most frequently used implants, commonly called "cages," require complementary bone grafting.

The new Actipore-PLF implant was specifically designed for this type of treatment. It requires no bone grafting, and enables rapid bone integration due to its porosity and mechanical properties, which make it a biomaterial with characteristics similar to human bone.

Results obtained after 6 months of *in-vivo* implantation clearly show more rapid bone integration (bone growth in the implant's pores) with Actipore-PLF, and better synergy with the bone, thus corroborating the advantages associated with this biomaterial's unique properties.

Actipore-PLF will be launched on September 4 in Sweden at the prestigious EUROSPINE conference. The launch will follow approval by European authorities ("CE" marking), which is expected within the next few weeks.

"It is my conviction that we have an excellent product with remarkable potential, created from our technology platform. Actipore-PLF is the first in a series of four new products to be launched over the next two years," according to Mr. Sicotte, Vice President, Research and Development.

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