

## **MEDIA RELEASE - NORTH TEXAS HOSPITAL**



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### IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **North Texas Hospital Will Be The First Hospital In North Texas To Offer Transaxillary Robotic Thyroid Lobectomy**

**Denton, TX...July 12, 2010**– North Texas Hospital in Denton is proud to announce that Dr. Carolyn Garner will be the first surgeon in the Denton County area to perform Transaxillary Robotic Thyroid Lobectomy.

North Texas Hospital and Dr. Garner are excited about the cutting edge technology which is expected to provide surgeons with a superior tool and technique for thyroid surgery. This surgical technique will give patients an option that eliminates all visible scars. With open techniques, surgeons strive to make the incision as small as possible, which may compromise exposure and ultimately visualization of the operative field. With *da Vinci*<sup>®</sup> Thyroid Lobectomy, surgeons achieve superior exposure by using a specialized Transaxillary Retractor that elevates the strap muscles. The surgeon is then able to view the fully exposed thyroid in a three-dimensional, HD image with up to 10x magnification. This exposure and visualization of the thyroid is better than most all open techniques and certainly superior to any endoscopic technique practiced today.

Furthermore, to many patients the presence of any scar is significant. Patients are overwhelmingly female (~75% of all cancer operations) and increasingly younger as screening techniques and technologies improve. While some surgeons successfully minimize neck scars with mini-open surgical techniques, scars remain nonetheless in highly visible areas. For these reasons, many surgeons have tried over the years to employ traditional endoscopic techniques. However, these techniques generally forced a trade-off between good cosmetic results and the efficacy of the procedure. With *da Vinci*<sup>®</sup>, not only are the cosmetic results excellent, the surgical platform enables potentially better results than are possible even with the open surgery.

**About Dr. Carolyn Garner** Dr. Garner is a Board Certified General Surgeon who completed her Fellowship in Endocrine Surgery from the Cleveland Clinic Foundation in 2007. She holds Medical Licenses in both the State of Texas and Ohio. Dr. Garner did her undergraduate training at Texas A&M University, graduating magna cum laude, with a B.S. in Microbiology. She graduated Medical School in 2001 from The University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, and did her Internship and Residency in General Surgery at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation from 2001 to 2006. Dr. Garner is active in the Endocrine Society, Texas Medical Association, Independent Physicians Association of Denton

County, American Association of Endocrine Surgeons, and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists. Dr. Garner has written numerous articles and abstracts in her field as well as presentations across the country on the subjects of thyroid disorders, thyroid cancer, the relationship of benign thyroid disorders to breast cancer, endocrinology, thyroid and parathyroid ultrasound, minimally invasive surgery in pediatric patients, and numerous other topics in her related field. She has received numerous awards in her career from her academic and research achievements to Patient Choice Awards. Dr. Garner has been very active in community service to the Denton County and North Texas area. North Texas Hospital is proud to work with Dr. Garner in the advancement of the latest technology in the treatment of thyroid tumors available to the people of North Texas.

*About North Texas Hospital Completed* in February 2005, North Texas Hospital in Denton celebrated its 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary in February this year. North Texas Hospital is a state-of-the-art medical specialty facility and licensed as a full- service acute care hospital. North Texas Hospital specializes in minimally invasive surgery utilizing *da Vinci*® Robotic technology as well as numerous other minimally invasive surgical techniques. The hospital provides over 17 surgical specialties, including orthopedic, spine, and bariatrics. NTH was designed more in the likeness of a warm and inviting hospitality facility---“boutique like”, rather than a more austere healthcare complex. In addition to offering all the services of a full service hospital, NTH also hosts on their campus the Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine that was recently recognized as a Center of Excellence by Diversified Clinical Services, the world’s largest wound care management company.

For more information about the services provided at North Texas Hospital and why it is **“the best kept secret in Denton”**, please contact Debbie Corlee, RN, Director of Business Development at [dcorlee@northtexashospital.com](mailto:dcorlee@northtexashospital.com).