NEWS RELEASE

St. Luke’s Children’s Hospital and Boise State Collaborate on Treatment for Movement Disorders

BOISE, Idaho — Improving the diagnosis and treatment of children with musculoskeletal and movement disorders is the goal of a new collaboration between St. Luke’s Children’s Hospital and Boise State University’s Center for Orthopedic & Biomechanics Research (COBR).

The collaboration allows physicians to use the technology available in the COBR Pediatric Motion Analysis Lab to assess the patient’s movement abilities. The goal of the analysis is to reduce the number of surgeries required and improve functional outcomes for pediatric patients.

To recognize the new partnership, a celebration and press conference will take place from 4 to 6 p.m. Jan. 30 at the Ron and Linda Yanke Family Research Park, 220 E. Parkcenter Blvd., Suite 602. The event will include a demonstration of the motion lab, which is located in the research park, as well as an overview of the new partnership with comments from Boise State President Bob Kustra and St. Luke’s Health System President and CEO Dr. David Pate.

The Pediatric Motion Analysis lab uses in-depth, detailed testing with 3-D computerized and electromyography gait analysis to determine the movement abilities and limitations of the patients. The specialized staff generates a report that can be used to develop a more effective treatment plan for the patient.

Prior to the analysis at the Boise State lab, pediatric patients are first referred to the Gait Clinic at St. Luke’s Elk’s Children’s Rehabilitation for a comprehensive clinical examination, including use of functional outcome assessment tools, by a pediatric physical therapist.
Patients between the ages of 8 and 21 with musculoskeletal problems such as cerebral palsy and spina bifida, and movement disorders are eligible for the assessment. Patients are referred to the program by St. Luke’s Orthopedists.

“Being able to access the technology available at the COBR Pediatric Motion Analysis Lab provides one of the first evidence-based outcomes programs for pediatric orthopedics,” said Dr. Gregory Janos, medical director of St. Luke’s Children’s Hospital. “This collaboration with Boise State provides a unique opportunity to not only enhance treatment, but could lead to the potential for future research in the field of pediatric orthopedics.”

“This partnership with St. Luke's is but one example of the community collaboration under way at Boise State,” said Boise State President Bob Kustra. "The Gait Clinic clearly illustrates the intersection of student engagement with access to research space and faculty expertise and demonstrates how such partnerships can improve the health and welfare of our community.”

**About St. Luke’s Children’s Hospital**

St. Luke’s Children’s Hospital is Idaho’s only Children’s Hospital. Each year, St. Luke’s Children’s Hospital cares for more than 50,000 children. More than 140 skilled pediatricians and pediatric specialists work with referring physicians from around the region to provide high quality care for the young patients. Founded in 1999, St. Luke’s Children’s Hospital is part of St. Luke’s Health System, Idaho’s largest and only locally-governed health care system comprised of seven hospitals, more than 100 clinics and 11,000 employees. To find out more, visit [www.stlukesonline.org/childrens](http://www.stlukesonline.org/childrens).

**Boise State University**

A public metropolitan research university with more than 22,000 students, Boise State comprises seven academic colleges, serving undergraduate and graduate students in nearly 200 majors and programs. Located in Idaho’s capital city, the university plays a crucial role in the region’s knowledge economy and famed quality of life. Learn more at [www.BoiseState.edu](http://www.BoiseState.edu).

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