



## **For Immediate Release**

### **NEW OUTPATIENT SURGERY CENTER REPORTS SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONS**

*Georgia Advanced Surgery Center for Women  
Announces 100+ Completed Cases, Staff Growth*

Cartersville, Ga.; Dec. 13, 2010 - In just six months of opening as Georgia's first and only outpatient surgery center for performing all major and minor gynecological procedures, the Georgia Advanced Surgery Center for Women (GASC) announced today that it has completed more than a hundred such cases – all successfully with same-day patient discharge and zero incidences of transfusion, post-operative infection or readmission. The state-of-the-art Cartersville facility has also doubled its staff to twelve employees since opening.

“Our goal is to provide women the very latest, safest and most effective gynecological treatment available, as well as the fastest recovery possible,” said Hugo Ribot Jr., M.D., founder and medical director of the GASC. “The clinical outcomes of our patients prove that we are accomplishing that goal.” He added, “The facts that we’ve already performed over a hundred surgeries, drawn patients from as far as the U.S. Virgin Islands, and are growing in a healthcare environment where many surgery centers fail in their first year of operation show that women want the superior quality of care that our unique outpatient approach provides.”

GASC co-founder, Malcolm Barfield, D.O., performed the facility's 100<sup>th</sup> surgery, which involved the repair of a condition known as pelvic organ prolapse.

Both Barfield and Ribot attribute the GASC's success to its highly advanced, minimally invasive surgical techniques that enable the most comprehensive and even concomitant gynecological procedures to be performed as true outpatient surgeries – with little to no incisions, post-operative pain or recovery time. “Even our patients undergoing total laparoscopic hysterectomy (TLH) safely return home within hours of their surgery, and to their normal daily activities in just a week,” Ribot explained, “versus up to three days of hospitalization and eight weeks of recovery time with traditional, total abdominal hysterectomy (TAH).”

“It was truly amazing,” said Mary Lindley of Rome, Ga., a registered nurse who had a TLH and an incontinence-correcting procedure performed concomitantly by Ribot. “I went in for surgery in the morning, came home after lunch and had no pain whatsoever. If I had a desk job, I would literally have gone back to work the very next day.”

Hysterectomy is one of the most major and common gynecological procedures, with TLH comprising 50 percent of the GASC’s surgical volume. One GASC patient even flew from St. Thomas, USVI, for her TLH – after researching alternatives to the TAH her physician recommended. “She was discharged within hours of her surgery, and is extremely satisfied with her choice and results, said Ribot. “Unfortunately, however, nearly 70 percent of all hysterectomies in the United States are still performed as TAH – causing women needless scarring, pain and downtime.”

Barfield added, “This facility not only provides the highest level of gynecological care available *anywhere*, but also the advantages of an easy, outpatient environment designed specifically for women.” He continued, “It’s super-convenient and comfortable, with many spa-like touches you don’t find in hospitals. Plus, it’s right here in Georgia.”

The GASC officially opened May 27, 2010, as the first ambulatory surgery center of its kind in Georgia. Located in Cartersville, 45 minutes from Atlanta, the state-of-the-art facility specializes in laparoscopic and other highly advanced, minimally invasive surgical techniques that spare women costly hospitalization, unsightly incisions and lengthy recovery for all major and minor gynecological procedures. Its unique outpatient protocol is the result of exhaustive research, development and clinical validation, including a prospective study comprising one of the largest series of consecutive outpatient hysterectomies ever documented and published.

Barfield and Ribot are Emory University-trained, board certified ob/gyns specializing in minimally invasive gynecological surgery, with over 24 years of combined experience in the specialty. In addition to founding the GASC, they are practicing partners of Cartersville Ob/Gyn Associates, a leading full-service ob/gyn practice founded in 1984.

For more information, please visit: [www.GA-AdvancedSurgeryCenter.com](http://www.GA-AdvancedSurgeryCenter.com).

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