**Osseointegration International and Permedica Orthopaedics announce the launch of their Direct Skeletal Fixation procedure for amputees**

Australian-based Osseointegration International Pty has announced a partnership with Italian manufacturer Permedica Orthopaedics to launch the Osseointegration procedure for amputees in Italy. The team will focus on supporting surgeons and healthcare professionals throughout the entire process of bringing the amputees to a "new normality".

Direct Skeletal Fixation or Osseointegration is a surgical procedure that involves inserting a prosthetic implant into the residual bone of an amputee, to which an external prosthesis can attach directly. This eliminates the need for a traditional socket-mounted prosthesis, resulting in enhanced mobility for amputees, a faster rehabilitation process, increased muscle use and control, a more natural gait with increased range of motion, and an improved quality of life.

This technique for amputees was proposed in the 90s by Prof. Rickard Brånemark, who built on his father's intuition and worked towards the first osseointegration procedure using a titanium fixture in a human. The implant design was perfected a few years later by Prof. Munjed Al-Muderis, a major figure in the field of osseointegration surgery. He improved the surgical technique and re-designed the first phase of the rehabilitation for patients undergoing osseointegration, making this surgical technique that was once considered experimental, a routine.

Since the first implant, over 2,000 patients have had Direct Skeletal Fixation surgeries, and Osseointegration International has over 1,200 successful cases worldwide making this procedure the most clinically validated.

Permedica Orthopaedic and Osseointegration International have a long-lasting partnership, as Permedica manufactures the components of the OPL - the medical device that is implanted in the amputee's bone. The companies are constantly cooperating on the technological improvement of this prosthesis.

"We are incredibly pleased that leveraging our partnership with Permedica and their capillary presence in the Italian territory, we will be able to bring this innovative procedure to Italian amputees," said Prof. Munjed Al Muderis, founder of Osseointegration International. "In the past, Italian patients who wanted to undergo Osseointegration had to fly to Sydney, but now they can confidently refer to an Italian crew that will follow them until the full completion of the rehabilitation."

"For years, we have received inquiries from Italian amputees to make this life-changing procedure available in Italy," said Federico Perego, owner of Permedica. "Thanks to our partnership with Osseointegration and the collaborations with Dr. Tiziano Villa, we are finally able to make the OPL available for Italian patients. In the first phase, we will concentrate all patients in a specialized center close to our facility in Brianza - north of Milan - to guarantee the highest standard of quality and support to the patients. Following this, the plan is to select limited and qualified structures that are well geographically spread in the Italian territory.

The Osseointegration procedure can be used in most upper and lower limb amputation cases and has shown overall cost savings.

More information can be found at

[www.osseointegration.org](http://www.osseointegration.org)

[www.osseointegration.org/it](http://www.osseointegration.org/it)

**About Osseointegration International.**

Osseointegration International is a privately owned, orthopaedic osseointegration surgery provider with the most extensive clinical follow-up in the world. Founded in 2015, Osseointegration International´s mission is to help amputees regain mobility and improve their quality of life. Osseointegration surgery involves the integration of implants into the patient´s remaining bone and their connection to an external prosthetic robotic device. The Company’s headquarters are in New South Wales, Australia.

**About Permedica S.p.A.**

Permedica SPA is a privately owned, Orthopaedic Implant technology company focused on the development, manufacturing and marketing of implants and instrumentation for orthopaedic joints for hip, knee and shoulder and movement preservation. The Company is headquartered in Merate - Greater Milan, Italy.