

# HSS Receives Landmark \$10 Million Grant from Stavros Niarchos Foundation



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*Mr. Andreas Dracopoulos, SNF Co-President, and Dr. Thomas Sculco. (Photo by Don Pollard)*

NEW YORK (PRNewswire) – An unprecedented \$10 million grant from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) has been given to Hospital for Special

Surgery (HSS) to name the Complex Joint Reconstruction Center (CJRC). This new commitment will support the endowment of the CJRC for the operation and expansion of its clinical, research and educational programs.

According to the American Joint Replacement Registry, there are over 7 million Americans living with replaced hip and knee joints and, should they fail, treatment is complex and requires specialized management.

“This generous gift will improve the lives of countless patients who suffer from debilitating complications or need revision surgery due to failed implants,” said Thomas P. Sculco, MD, surgeon-in-chief emeritus and director of the CJRC at HSS. “We are deeply honored by the visionary leadership of the SNF in supporting our endeavor to lessen implant failure, restore function, and relieve pain for patients who need specialized joint reconstructions.”

As the first of its kind, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Complex Joint Reconstruction Center provides the best in diagnosis and treatment for patients with the most challenging conditions in joint reconstructions, regardless of their financial circumstances, and conducts cutting-edge basic and clinical research on the causes and prevention of implant failure.

“Having partnered with HSS for over a decade, the SNF has witnessed first-hand the deep commitment of the people of HSS to excellence and progress in orthopedic care,” said Andreas Dracopoulos, Co-President of the SNF. “We are especially proud to support Dr. Sculco’s vision to improve the lives of patients with the most complex cases of joint reconstruction, and to seek solutions to issues that impact the field at large.”

“HSS is uniquely positioned to develop new techniques and improvements in implant design that will significantly impact global care for these complex problems.” said Dr. Sculco. “People are living longer and leading more active lives thus making the need for progress in our knowledge and treatment of these failed implants more critical than ever.”

Dr. Sculco is internationally recognized as a leader in hip and knee replacement surgery, having pioneered minimally invasive surgical techniques. Now, he is leading efforts to improve the success and longevity of implants to benefit millions of patients worldwide.

Over the past year, the CJRC has expanded its surgical team to 16 experienced orthopedic surgeons and successfully launched a patient registry with over 800 surgical cases already recorded. This registry is the first in the world solely

dedicated to capturing vital clinical and outcomes data from patients undergoing joint reconstruction and complex primary joint replacement surgery. This data creates a platform for clinical trials, translational research and innovations in treatment that will lead to improved standards of care. In 2017, the CJRC performed 534 surgeries on patients with complex joint reconstructions.

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation is one of the world's leading private international philanthropic organizations, making grants in the areas of health and sports, arts and culture, education, and social welfare. The SNF supports projects that aim to achieve a broad, lasting and positive impact on society.

Spanning over a decade, HSS and SNF's longstanding relationship has spurred programs such as the Stavros Niarchos Foundation-Thomas P. Sculco, MD International Orthopaedic Fellowship Program, HSS Stavros Niarchos Foundation Orthopaedic Seminar and Academic Visitor Program to educate Greek orthopedic surgeons on ways to improve treatment and outcomes in joint replacement.

Since 2006, HSS has hosted Greek surgeons for the annual HSS Stavros Niarchos Foundation Orthopaedic Seminar Program, which teaches the latest techniques and innovations in complex and primary total hip and knee replacement with the ultimate goal of improving healthcare in Greece.

This year, the seminar will take place on November 27-28, 2018 with two days of didactic sessions, case consultations, roundtable discussions, hands-on workshops and operating room observation at operations at HSS. The following three days will include attendance at the 30th Annual HSS Holiday Knee & Hip Course, a CME-accredited professional education course.

The program immerses visiting Greek surgeons, typically those early in their careers, in the high-volume joint replacement environment at HSS.

SNF also previously granted HSS \$1 million to fund the Thomas P. Sculco, Chair in Orthopedic Surgery, which played an instrumental role in the creation of the CJRC.

About HSS | Hospital for Special Surgery

HSS is the world's leading academic medical center focused on musculoskeletal health. At its core is Hospital for Special Surgery, nationally ranked No. 1 in orthopedics (for the ninth consecutive year) and No. 3 in rheumatology by U.S. News & World Report (2018-2019). Founded in 1863, the Hospital has one of the lowest infection rates in the country and was the first in New York State to

receive Magnet Recognition for Excellence in Nursing Service from the American Nurses Credentialing Center four consecutive times. The global standard total knee replacement was developed at HSS in 1969. An affiliate of Weill Cornell Medical College, HSS has a main campus in New York City and facilities in New Jersey, Connecticut and in the Long Island and Westchester County regions of New York State. In 2017 HSS provided care to 135,000 patients and performed more than 32,000 surgical procedures. People from all 50 U.S. states and 80 countries travelled to receive care at HSS. In addition to patient care, HSS leads the field in research, innovation and education. The HSS Research Institute comprises 20 laboratories and 300 staff members focused on leading the advancement of musculoskeletal health through prevention of degeneration, tissue repair and tissue regeneration. The HSS Global Innovation Institute was formed in 2016 to realize the potential of new drugs, therapeutics and devices. The culture of innovation is accelerating at HSS as 130 new idea submissions were made to the Global Innovation Institute in 2017 (almost 3x the submissions in 2015). The HSS Education Institute is the world's leading provider of education on the topic on musculoskeletal health, with its online learning platform offering more than 600 courses to more than 21,000 medical professional members worldwide. Through HSS Global Ventures, the institution is collaborating with medical centers and other organizations to advance the quality and value of musculoskeletal care and to make world-class HSS care more widely accessible nationally and internationally.

#### About the Stavros Niarchos Foundation

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation [(SNF) ([www.SNF.org](http://www.SNF.org))] is one of the world's leading private, international philanthropic organizations, making grants in the areas of arts and culture, education, health and sports, and social welfare. Since 1996, the Foundation has committed more than \$2.6 billion, through more than 4,000 grants to nonprofit organizations in 124 nations around the world.

The SNF funds organizations and projects, worldwide, that aim to achieve a broad, lasting and positive impact, for society at large, and exhibit strong leadership and sound management. The Foundation also supports projects that facilitate the formation of public-private partnerships as an effective means for serving public welfare.