

Boston Scientific to acquire Vertiflex for \$465M

13 May 2019 | News

Acquisition of lumbar spinal stenosis treatment to expand portfolio of interventional pain therapies



Boston Scientific has announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Vertiflex, Inc., a privately-held company which has developed and commercialized the Superior[®] Indirect Decompression System, a minimally-invasive device used to improve physical function and reduce pain in patients with lumbar spinal stenosis (LSS).

The procedure – primarily performed by physicians who treat chronic pain patients with therapies including spinal cord stimulation and radiofrequency ablation – is expected to reach \$60 million in sales in 2019. The transaction consists of \$465 million in upfront cash and additional payments contingent on commercial milestones for the next three years.

The Superior System – approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 2015 for patients with moderate degenerative LSS – creates space between the spinous processes of the vertebrae. The creation of this space reduces pressure on the nerves and can thereby improve patient mobility and relieve pain, numbness and cramping in the legs. This procedure is a treatment option for patients who have not responded positively to first-line therapies, such as oral pain medication and steroid injections, but do not have severe enough symptoms to require spinal fusion or laminectomy.