

Aug. 25, 2011

**Society of Interventional Radiology Foundation Campaign
Bolstered by Covidien Pledge**
***Gift of \$375,000 to SIRF's Major Fundraising Initiative Supports Growth of Minimally
Invasive Medicine Into New Areas of Discovery***

FAIRFAX, VA.—The Society of Interventional Radiology Foundation's Discovery Campaign, which seeks to further the growth of minimally invasive medicine into new areas of discovery, announced a major corporate pledge to that initiative. Covidien, a manufacturer of medical devices, pharmaceuticals and medical supplies, based in Mansfield, Mass., has pledged \$375,000 and is a "Visionary" level supporter.

"Collaboration at this level provides support to grants, research, consensus panels, registries, clinical trials and educational programming—all activities that, in turn, lead to innovation," said Gordon McLennan, M.D., FSIR, chair of the SIR Foundation board of directors and an interventional radiologist with the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio. "We are so grateful for Covidien's support and partnership in this venture," he added.

"As a pioneer in a number of medical advances that impact interventional radiology, Covidien is passionate about collaborating with medical professionals and organizations in the field to foster the development of innovative research," commented Mark A. Turco, M.D., Covidien's chief medical officer, vascular therapies.

The Discovery Campaign was launched initially in 2007 with an SIR membership phase. Last year marked the initiation of the campaign's outreach to the medical technology industry for support. For information about the Society of Interventional Radiology, a national organization of nearly 4,700 doctors, scientists and allied health professionals dedicated to improving health care through minimally invasive treatments, visit online at www.SIRweb.org. For more information about the Discovery Campaign or to learn more about the Society of Interventional Radiology Foundation, visit online at www.SIRFoundation.org.

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About the Society of Interventional Radiology Foundation

SIR Foundation is a scientific foundation dedicated to fostering research and education in interventional radiology for the purposes of advancing scientific knowledge, increasing the number of skilled investigators in interventional radiology and developing innovative therapies that lead to improved patient care and quality of life. Visit www.SIRFoundation.org.

About Covidien

Covidien has pioneered a number of medical advances including contrast media, pulse oximetry, electrosurgery, surgical stapling and laparoscopic instrumentation. The company's extensive product line includes medical devices, pharmaceuticals and medical supplies and it serves hospitals, long-term care and alternate care facilities, doctors' offices and home healthcare. For more information, visit www.covidien.com.

Local interviews and photos are available by contacting SIR's communications department staff: Ellen Acconcia, SIR communications manager/practice areas, eacconcia@SIRweb.org, (703) 460-5582, or Maryann Verrillo, SIR director of communications and public relations, mverrillo@SIRweb.org, (703) 460-5572.