



MEDIA INVITE

Winnipeg School Division hosts schools for live web surgery April 18

April 12, 2017 (Winnipeg, MB) – Winnipeg media are invited to join Sisler High School students on Tuesday, April 18 at 10:00 a.m. as they host a surgery from Pan Am Clinic through interactive high-definition video conferencing. In addition to over 100 Winnipeg School Division students who will be in attendance at Sisler to watch the live stream and video conference of this surgery, high school students in northern Manitoba, and hundreds of students from around the globe including schools in New York, Ontario, Las Vegas, United Kingdom, and Taiwan. This event is made possible by the technical facilities and resources provided by the Frontier School Division.

When: April 18, 2017

Time: 10:00 am CT

On site: Sisler High School, 1360 Redwood Ave.

LiveStream: [Frontier School Division livestreams](#)

Twitter: @Soapbox_ED, #livesurgery, #LRTI

Session Descriptor: Starting at 10:00 a.m., the Pan Am Clinic will open its operating room to students by streaming a live surgery. Most activities that involve grasping or pinching are possible because of the thumb's remarkable range of motion. But dexterity comes at a price – an increased risk of **osteoarthritis** in the first carpometacarpal (CMC) joint, where the thumb meets the trapezium bone in the wrist. Sometimes the joint becomes so damaged that surgery is necessary.

Problems often start when the thick ligaments that hold the joint together loosen, allowing it to slip out of place. Over time, the articular cartilage that cushions the ends of the bones wears away, causing pain and limiting movement. **Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)** and other forms of inflammatory arthritis can also damage the first CMC joint – also known as the trapeziometacarpal joint (TMC).

In use for more than 40 years, LRTI is the most commonly performed surgery for thumb arthritis. The arthritic joint surfaces are removed and replaced with a cushion of tissue that keeps the bones separated. **To accomplish this, surgeons remove all or part of the trapezium bone in the wrist.**

A nearby tendon is detached at one end and then passed through a hole drilled in the thumb metacarpal. The remaining tendon is rolled like an anchovy and placed into the space where the bone was removed. Surgeons can also use artificial “anchovies” that eliminate the need to move a tendon.

Goals of Presentation: The goal of this project is simply to make high tech procedures such as surgeries more accessible to students. A project like this allows students to understand what exactly goes on behind the scenes during a surgery and will be the third live surgery in a partnership with Winnipeg School Division, Sisler High School, Frontier School Division, Pan Am Clinic, Manitoba Health, and Telehealth.

Students attending the session in person have media permission.

-30-

Contact:

Matthew Robak

mrobak@wsd1.org

Science and Math, Sisler High School

204-589-8321

Radean Carter

rcarter@wsd1.org

Senior Information Officer, Winnipeg School Division

204-2789-0412