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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

DR. REILLY ON THE A-ROD SURGERIES

The surgery Alex Rodriguez had performed on Monday is only the first step in his recuperation process. The next surgery, to take place after the baseball season, is a more complex important one, according to Staten Island Yankee Team Physician Dr. John P. Reilly. “The disease process is much more complicated than in the shoulder or knee,” explained Dr. Reilly. “It’s rooted in developmental abnormalities in the hip socket. So, in order to prevent the hip from becoming arthritic it’s necessary to treat the hip socket.”

New York Yankee slugger Rodriguez underwent what by all accounts seems to have been a successful operation on Monday to repair a torn labrum (a ring of cartilage that surrounds the hip joint socket) in his right hip. “It’s no different from surgery done of an ambulatory nature,” Dr. Reilly said. Since the procedure is ambulatory it means that Rodriguez will be able to walk and move. “There is very little tissue trauma,” said Dr. Reilly. “For the right diagnosis, it can be extremely gratifying in terms of pain relief.”

Arthroscopic surgery is a minimally invasive procedure in which the damage of an interior joint is treated with an arthroscope. Two incisions are made: one to insert the arthroscope into the joint and another for the other surgical equipment needed. It’s a procedure and ailment that is becoming easier to understand. “The improvements of MRI’s in machinery have given orthopaedics the ability to diagnose

problems in the hip joint,” said Dr. John P. Reilly. “It’s very beneficial.” But is there a chance Rodriguez could re-injure himself if he plays too soon? Dr. Reilly doesn’t think so. “The Yankees won’t let that happen,” he said. “He’ll be followed and observed very closely thru his rehab program.”

Two of HCA’s Orthopaedic Surgeons, Dr. Reilly and Dr. Joseph Giovinazzo, are also the team physicians for the Staten Island Yankees. Our physicians, who specialize in neurology, neurological surgery, orthopaedics and pain management are the community’s preeminent providers of coordinated neurological, neuromuscular and musculoskeletal services. Dedicated to providing our patients with the very best in medical care, we at Healthcare are committed to the ongoing advancement and development of our specialty services.

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