

## Memorial Healthcare System Participates in Groundbreaking Clinical Trial for Innovative Pleural Effusion Treatment

March 27, 2025 – [Memorial Healthcare System](#) is one of only four healthcare centers in the nation to have participated in a clinical trial for the Pleural Dynamics ACES™ System, a game-changing device that uses a patient's normal breathing to provide continuous relief from pleural effusion—excess fluid buildup in the pleural space between the lungs and chest wall. This fully internal, patient-friendly system eliminates the need for external catheters, frequent drainage, and prolonged hospital stays.

The trial concluded March 25, and with FDA approval already secured, the device is expected to reach the general market soon after. With its participation, Memorial Healthcare System continues its commitment to pioneering innovative treatments that enhance patient care and transform lives.

“The ACES™ System represents a significant leap forward in pleural effusion management,” said [Dr. Mark Block](#), Chief, Division of Thoracic Surgery Program, at Memorial Healthcare System. “This fully internal, patient-friendly device is designed to offer relief without the complications of traditional treatments, and we're excited to be part of the study advancing this technology.”

Pleural effusion affects 1.5 million Americans annually, often linked to conditions such as cancer, heart failure, pneumonia, and kidney or liver disease. Traditional treatments like pleurodesis are often painful and require extended hospital stays, while external catheters demand frequent drainage and pose infection risks. The ACES™ System provides a revolutionary alternative, enhancing patient comfort and quality of life.

### Breakthrough Benefits of the ACES™ System:

- **Automatic, Continuous Relief:** Uses normal breathing to pump excess pleural fluid into the abdomen for natural reabsorption.
- **Minimally Invasive Placement:** Implanted during a brief hospital visit, unlike painful pleurodesis.
- **No External Tubing:** Reduces discomfort, inconvenience and infection risks.
- **No Routine Drainage Needed:** Reduces the burden of managing fluid buildup, allowing patients greater independence.
- **Fewer Hospital Visits:** Provides long-term relief without frequent medical interventions.
- **Cost Savings Over Time:** Eliminates the need for ongoing catheter-related supplies and drainage canisters.

The study, officially titled *A Post-Market Study Evaluating Fluid Shunting Using the Automatic Continuous Effusion Management System (ACES™) in Patients with Symptomatic Aseptic Pleural Effusion*, is currently evaluating the system's effectiveness in patients requiring fluid control. Participants undergo comprehensive assessments before receiving the ACES™ implant and are then monitored post-procedure with electronic tracking of pain and breathing improvements.

## **About Memorial Healthcare System**

South Florida-based [Memorial Healthcare System](#) is a national leader in quality care and patient, physician, and employee satisfaction. Its commitment to deeper caring, smarter health, and community outreach prioritizes a person-centered approach that has delivered safe, positive outcomes for more than 70 years.

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