

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Arthritis Sufferers At Increased Risk Of Heart Attack?**

Frederick, Maryland--- February 9, 2011 --- February is National American Heart month. Heart disease is the number one cause of death in the United States. Every 25 seconds, an American will have a coronary event, and about one person every minute will die from one. And, if they have arthritis, that risk skyrockets.

According to studies published in the journals *Circulation*, *Arthritis and Rheumatism*, *Journal of Rheumatology* and *Arthritis Research and Therapy*, people with rheumatoid arthritis have a greater risk of heart disease than the general population.

Dr. Nathan Wei states, "Patients who have been diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis may be three times more likely to have a heart attack requiring hospitalization and five times more likely to have an unrecognized heart attack."

Dr. Wei adds, "Recent evidence has shown that a type of bacteria found in the mouth, *Porphyromonus Gingivalis*, may be the culprit causing both rheumatoid arthritis as well as heart disease. Persons with rheumatoid arthritis should be screened and treated for cardiac risk factors including high cholesterol." He also says, "Data indicates the addition of a dietary fish oil containing omega 3 oils can benefit arthritis symptoms and promote a healthy heart." To get a copy of a free report on how dietary fish oil can help arthritis and your heart, call 301-694-5800.

Dr. Wei is a board-certified rheumatologist expert. He is Director of the Arthritis Treatment Center located in Frederick, Maryland.

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