

***For Immediate Release***

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**Benaroya Research Institute Names New Chief Financial Officer**

**SEATTLE, Wash. — (May 9, 2006) —** This week, Benaroya Research Institute at Virginia Mason (BRI) announced Brian Chrisman, CPA, as Chief Financial Officer. Chrisman will provide leadership for all financial and accounting activities at BRI.

"As CFO, I want to help support BRI on its path to identifying the causes and cures of devastating diseases like diabetes and cancer," said Chrisman. "I hope to enhance and develop the expertise of our team as BRI continues to experience outstanding growth. I will work to evaluate, design and implement improved communications and information systems to support the research community."

Chrisman was most recently the Controller of the Northern California Institute for Research and Education (NCIRE) in San Francisco, CA, where he worked with federal contracts and grants administration. Prior experience includes 15 years in public accounting (including PricewaterhouseCoopers and local firms), nine years in the personnel industry, and four years with pre-IPO, high technology start-ups.

"I had the opportunity to work with Brian at NCIRE and I am looking forward to working with him again," said Jack Nagan, Executive Director. "We are very fortunate to have him join BRI."

**Benaroya Research Institute**

Benaroya Research Institute at Virginia Mason is a non-profit research institute specializing in the study of the role of the immune system and genetics in diseases such as diabetes, arthritis, cardiovascular disease and cancer, with a clinical research program which conducts approximately 200 clinical trials every year. BRI is internationally known for its integration of research from the laboratory bench to the patient's bedside, known as translational research.

**Virginia Mason Medical Center**

Virginia Mason Medical Center, founded in 1920, is a non-profit comprehensive regional health care system that combines a primary and specialty care group practice of more than 400 physicians with a 336-bed acute care Seattle hospital.

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