

Hematology-Oncology Associates

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***** For Immediate Release *****

Hematology-Oncology Associates of CNY Opens a New Satellite Office & Comprehensive Cancer Center

2007 not only celebrates Hematology-Oncology Associates' 25th Anniversary as a medical practice, it also signifies a year of new growth and opportunity. Construction of Hematology-Oncology Associates of CNY's new 13,000 square foot comprehensive cancer center adjacent to Community General Hospital was completed and the office commenced operations on February 12th.

"The patient was truly our focus when this new center was created," states Maryann Roefaro, the practice's CEO. It will be operated by a highly skilled and compassionate staff, have all the amenities that a patient could desire, maintain state of the art technology and provide clinical research opportunities. It was designed with hardwood floors, warm colors and an atmosphere of peace and tranquility. The waiting room has a fireplace and the millwork and lighting lends itself to a homelike appearance. It is not uncommon for patients to get a chill when they receive chemotherapy and in an effort to maximize their comfort, individually controlled radiant panels were placed in the ceiling above each infusion chair. A patient will be able to adjust the temperature of their area by turning a dial. Internet access and flat screen TV's add to the comfort and convenience for patients.

This site will also be home to the Varian Clinac iX, the most advanced model of linear accelerator available to date. It's used for Radiation treatments and can provide IMRT/IGRT

therapy. This Image Guided Radiation Therapy employs robotics and computerized technology to administer radiation with the highest level of precision and accuracy, while simultaneously rendering minimum damage to any surrounding tissue that is healthy. The site will also be home to high-tech CT scanner.

Access to over 115 clinical cancer research trials will also be available to patients. This access is through the practice's 21-year relationship with the National Cancer Institute (NCI) as Central New York's only Community Clinical Oncology Program (CCOP). This prestigious affiliation allows cancer patients in our community to access clinical research trials and collaborate with major cancer centers across the nation. Through the CCOP, staff and patients maintain the opportunity to contribute to the improvement of cancer care and prevention. This research includes cancer control and prevention trials that provide treatment with investigational therapies for various stages and types of cancer as well as prevention trials that focus on the prevention of cancer-related side effects, quality of life improvements and the prevention of cancer itself.

Laboratory services, patient/family counseling and support group services, dietary assessments/nutritional counseling, and community education programs will also be on site. Complementary Therapy Services also hope to be expanded to the new site.

The practice's 65,000 square foot Brittonfield center remains the major hub of all operations and the great news for that facility will come in the fall of 2007 when construction of a second vault is completed and the CyberKnife® becomes operational. This will be the only CyberKnife® in Central New York and will revolutionize treatment choices for cancer and tumor treatments. The CyberKnife® Robotic Radiosurgery System is the world's first and only commercially available radiosurgery system designed to treat tumors anywhere in the body with sub-millimeter accuracy. It will replace many invasive and operative treatment choices and will enrich the prognosis of several serious cancers and illnesses.

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