

Hematology-Oncology Associates of CNY

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

Hematology-Oncology Associates Expands its Arsenal of Cutting Edge Technologies to Fight Cancer

Hematology-Oncology Associates of CNY (HOA) has always been committed to high-tech treatments for cancer care. In November of 2007, they became the first and only provider of CyberKnife® services in Central New York and they continue to have the only CyberKnife® in town. The availability of this technology has dramatically affected the array of treatment options for brain, spine, lung, kidney, pancreatic and liver cancers with groundbreaking results. HOA has just implemented a significant upgrade that takes advantage of a new suite of CyberKnife® products that work together to significantly shorten the treatment times offered by the system.

Utilizing the latest advancements to the CyberKnife®, this next generation system incorporates a number of sophisticated technologies to achieve a considerable reduction in treatment times. The CyberKnife® provides robotic, stereotactic radiosurgery that rapidly delivers doses of radiation with sub-millimeter accuracy. This new upgrade will result in treatment times that are up to 30% faster than previous systems. For example, although treatment times vary and are based upon case complexity and type of cancer, it will now take HOA sixteen (16) minutes to treat a brain lesion. “It’s clear that the upgrade and improvements made to the CyberKnife® will enable the practice to accommodate the projected increase in volume of patients who will need this treatment,” states Maryann Roefaro, CEO of the practice. The CyberKnife® is housed at HOA’s main campus on Brittonfield Parkway.

Two additional technologic advancements were recently added to the Brittonfield office in East Syracuse – a new, state of the art Varian linear accelerator for Radiation Therapy Treatments and a 40-slice CT. With the addition of this instrumentation at Brittonfield, every HOA site that offers radiation therapy will now house the most advanced model of linear accelerator available to date. This technology, known as IGRT, is Image Guided Radiation Therapy. It is state of the art technology for the treatment of tumors because it 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 Varian linear accelerator offers the best technology available to cancer patients.

The 40-slice CT is a Siemens product and is known as the Somatom Sensation Open. This CT imaging meets today's challenges by combining the advantages of a large bore with advanced multislice CT technology. This premier solution not only offers exceptional images for diagnostic purposes it also provides diagnostic support for radiation therapy planning and complements HOA's CyberKnife® and Varian Linear Accelerator.

Hematology Oncology Associates (HOA) will celebrate their 27th Anniversary in July of 2009 and they will celebrate their 22nd year of participation 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. There are over 126 clinical cancer research trials available to patients of HOA. 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.

The mission of Hematology-Oncology Associates of CNY is to provide the highest level of quality care in a healing environment for the mind, body and spirit of patients dealing with cancer and blood disorders.

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