



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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SAINT FRANCIS INSTALLS NEXT GENERATION PET/CT SCANNER – THE FIRST IN CONNECTICUT

Device Begins Service at Saint Francis on January 21, 2009

(Hartford, CT) – Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center is the first to introduce the Siemens PET/CT scanner to Connecticut.

The scanner combines state-of-the-art Positron Emission Tomography (PET) and Computed Tomography (CT) scanners. The scanners are imaging tools that physicians use to pinpoint various diseases in the body. A PET scan reveals the biological function of the body, while the CT scan provides anatomical information. The ability to fuse both sets of images into one system gives physicians high resolution views of both form in function inside the body.

“As state-of-the-art patient care moves forward into the realm of target therapies and ‘molecular medicine’, Radiology/Imaging Services at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center is at the forefront with tools such as the Biograph 64 which will allow us to detect disease earlier, and monitor therapy more accurately than ever before by imaging on a cellular level,” explains Anthony Posteraro, M.D., Director, Nuclear Medicine, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center.

PET/CT is a useful tool for oncologists, for example, in determining an early diagnosis, more accurate tumor detection and precise localization, improved biopsy sampling, and better assessment of patient responses to chemotherapy and radiation therapy.

PET/CT is also used by cardiologists to detect certain types of heart disease, and by neurologists for assessing disorders such as Alzheimer’s disease.

“It once again affirms our commitment to provide the highest quality of care to our patients and establish ourselves as leaders in the community with the latest advancements in technology,” said Christopher Dadlez, President and CEO of Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center.

Founded in 1897, Saint Francis is a major teaching hospital licensed for 617 acute inpatient beds and 65 bassinets and is the largest Catholic hospital in New England.

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