

For Immediate Release

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**CONNECTICUT BRAIN TUMOR ALLIANCE  
AWARDS GRANT TO SAINT FRANCIS**

***\$20,000 Provided for Brain Tumor Treatment***

(HARTFORD, Conn.) – The Connecticut Brain Tumor Alliance has awarded Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center a \$20,000 grant to purchase technologically advanced radiation therapy equipment for the Saint Francis/Mount Sinai Regional Cancer Center.

The device, called a “head immobilization package,” will be used with the Cancer Center’s treatment simulators, linear accelerators and CyberKnife® radiosurgery equipment. “This technology will help to immobilize a patient’s head during both treatment planning and treatment for brain tumors. It will allow us to precisely form a mold around the patient’s anatomy and produce a mask that restricts head movement, providing great accuracy and great reproducibility for the delivery of high-dose radiation to the tumor target,” said Eric van Rooy, M.D., Director, Radiation Oncology.

The Saint Francis/Mount Sinai Regional Cancer Center provided radiation therapy treatments to 167 brain tumor patients last year.



*Far Left: Eric Van Rooy, MD, Director of Radiation Oncology at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center; Center: Paul Pendergast, President and Chief Development Officer, Saint Francis Foundation accepting a check from David Lemkuil, Board Member, Connecticut Brain Tumor Alliance. Far Right: Sister Judy Carey, VP, Mission Integration, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center.*

“We are grateful to the Connecticut Brain Tumor Alliance for this support which will allow us to continue to provide leading-edge treatment to our cancer patients,” said Jonathan Sporn, M.D., Chief, Hematology/Oncology.

“A person’s life is changed forever when they are told that they have a brain tumor,” said Tracey Gamer-Fanning, President, Connecticut Brain Tumor Alliance. “For me, this donation is very personal, because I started my journey with brain cancer at Saint Francis and was operated on here.”

The Connecticut Brain Tumor Alliance is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness of brain tumors and to providing support for individuals living with brain tumors.

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