CONNNNECTICUT 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.
“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.

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