

## News Release

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### **CentraState adds “cone beam” imaging to cancer care arsenal**

**FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP**—A high-tech diagnostic tool for cancer called cone-beam computed tomography (CBCT) is now available at CentraState Medical Center. CBCT images are taken while a patient is on the treatment table awaiting radiation therapy. They help clinicians identify and compensate for minor variations in the location and size of tumors that can change from day to day.

CBCT is a component of image-guided radiation therapy—an emerging method of radiation therapy introduced at CentraState in 2005—that is enabling physicians to deliver higher doses of radiation to eradicate tumors while limiting side effects.

“CBCT quickly produces detailed three-dimensional images that are used to verify tumor location and proportions,” says Jan Dragotta, clinical director, CentraState Radiation Oncology. “Clinicians can compare the daily CT images to existing reference images and make necessary adjustments to the patient’s positioning to match the treatment plan. They also can use the images to modify the original treatment plan as needed.”

Last month, CentraState’s Radiation Oncology Program was reaccredited by the American College of Radiologists (ACR) for three years, based on “national evaluations of personnel qualifications, equipment performance, effectiveness of quality control measures, and high practice standards, the primary factors affecting the quality of cancer care.” The hospital added radiation therapy to its range of cancer services in 2002 and the Radiation Oncology Program was initially accredited by ACR the following year.

The Radiation Oncology Program also is approved as a clinical trial site by the Cancer Trials Support Unit of the National Cancer Institute and The Cancer

Institute of New Jersey's Oncology Group. The program currently is participating in breast cancer and lung cancer clinical trials. Patients can get more information on these and other cancer clinical trials by calling (732) 294-5874.

CentraState Healthcare System is a non-profit community health organization consisting of an acute-care hospital, three senior living centers, a health education and activities center, a family medicine residency program, and a charitable foundation. It is a member of the Robert Wood Johnson Health Network and a clinical research affiliate of The Cancer Institute of New Jersey, a National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center.

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