

NEWS RELEASE:

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For information, call Tiffany Ervin (828-696-4207)

Media Beeper: (828-444-1149)

tiffany.ervin@pardeehospital.org

**Advanced Cancer Detection Technology Now Available
at the Comprehensive Cancer Center at Pardee**

(Hendersonville, NC) The Comprehensive Cancer Center at Pardee is now home to one of the most advanced machines available to detect cancer in its earliest stages – the Positron Emission Tomography, or PET imaging scanner.

In partnership with Alliance Imaging, Inc., Pardee Hospital has contracted to bring the \$2.5 million PET imaging scanner to Hendersonville. PET is a whole-body imaging procedure used to battle most cancers, including lung, colorectal, lymphoma and breast.

“In many types of cancer, early detection has been directly linked to the success of patient outcomes,” said Dr. James Radford, an oncologist with the Comprehensive Cancer Center at Pardee. “PET has been shown to be able to detect cancerous tumors very early in their history or promptly at reoccurrence, and provides us with valuable information for determining the best treatment option for our cancer patients. We’re proud to add this technology to the broad range of advanced cancer services the Comprehensive Cancer Center at Pardee offers the community.”

According to radiologist Jerrold T. Gale, M.D., the PET works much like a CT scan, making three-dimensional images of the inside of the body. This non-invasive imaging procedure is a single exam that evaluates the whole body with the mission of detecting cancerous tissue. PET studies focus on cellular activity to diagnose, stage, evaluate treatment and detect recurrent cancer.

“PET helps physicians identify cells that grow at a very fast rate, which is the case with cancer cells. In addition to often assisting in finding the cancer, PET may help to determine if the disease has spread to other parts of the body, and where,” said Dr. Gale. “This is crucial information that physicians need to know to choose the most appropriate treatment for each patient. PET is also used to determine if the cancer has been successfully treated, or if it has returned.”

For more information on the PET scanner, consult with your family physician or contact Pardee Radiology Services at 828-696-4654.

The Comprehensive Cancer Center at Pardee is Henderson County’s only Comprehensive Cancer Program accredited by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer. The center offers a full range of advanced treatment and diagnostic services, close to home, performed by highly qualified cancer specialists. Services include surgery, medical oncology, radiation oncology, and high-tech radiology and laboratory diagnostic support. Pardee also offers access to more than 30 cancer clinical trials. In addition, community education programs, cancer screenings, support groups and holistic patient and family support are available.

Pardee Hospital is a not-for-profit community hospital founded in 1953. The main hospital is licensed for 222 acute care beds. The hospital has several locations separate from the main campus, including a 130-bed nursing facility, an adult day services center, a health education center, home care services, sports therapy and rehabilitation, a women’s health center, various family and internal medicine practices and two urgent care facilities.

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