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PRESS RELEASE

Radiotherapeutic Oncology: Cancer treatment up to 85% without metastases

Brain Radiosurgery: 96% success for non-malignant tumors

The new equipment of the Radiotherapeutic Oncology Center of the **Diagnostic & Therapeutic Center of Athens HYGEIA** promises cancer treatment up to **85%** without metastases and treatment of cancer patients with no need for mutilation, thus saving vital organs (e.g. larynx, breast, prostate).

In addition, the **96%** success obtained by the **unique in Greece GAMMA KNIFE brain radiosurgery equipment** for the majority of non-malignant tumors and the experience the related Center has gained after its 3-year operation fully justify the leading part it plays in the treatment of brain lesions.

These were the main topics of discussion during the **Press Conference** held on **Thursday, November 22nd, 2007** at the Library of the **Diagnostic & Therapeutic Center of Athens HYGEIA** on the occasion of the European Gamma Knife Meeting (24- 25.11), the 100-year anniversary of Lars Leksell's birth, founder of the Gamma Knife Unit and renovator of the Radiotherapy Oncology Center of HYGEIA.

As the radiotherapeutic oncologist and Associate Director of the Radiotherapy Oncology Center, HYGEIA, Mr. Philippe Aggelakis, pointed out "This first European installation of the innovative **ELEKTA Axesse™** solution for image-guided stereotactic radiotherapy at the **Diagnostic & Therapeutic Center of Athens HYGEIA** enabled us to combine for the first time in Greece the 3-dimensional imaging with the precision of stereotaxy before and during radiotherapy."

The new technique of Image-Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT), an advancement of the 3D imaging and the unique in Greece IMRT radiotherapy, ensures that the radiated tumor is precisely targeted within just 30 seconds. The axial tomography is obtained simultaneously and the respective corrections are made within similar time.

The Neurosurgeon and Director of the Gamma Knife Unit, HYGEIA, Mr. Michael Torrens, noted that the Gamma Knife treatment of 600 patients within three years reached a higher control percentage than that of an open surgery



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and that the treatment is completed in one day without incurring risks and complications and with null mortality rate.

He also added that patients can be efficiently treated as the Gamma Knife treatment is covered by public insurance funds and private insurance companies.