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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NEW RADIATION TECHNOLOGY - PROSTATE SEED IMPLANTS
USED FOR CANCER TREATMENT**

Muskegon, MI, August 31, 2006 -- The Hackley Cancer Center is now treating prostate cancer patients with permanent seed implants, called Brachytherapy - the latest radiation therapy technology available. Prostate Cancer is the number one cancer diagnosis in Muskegon County and the leading cause of cancer death in American men.

Brachytherapy is a radiation treatment where radioactive seeds are placed directly in a cancer-affected organ with the intent of destroying the malignancy. This treatment is an internal organ radiation therapy in contrast to external beam radiation. Prostate Seed Implant treatment is an outpatient minor surgical procedure where tiny radioactive pellets, about the size of a grain of rice are inserted into the prostate.

"The seed implants remain in place permanently," said Dr. Willard P. DeBraber, Urologist. "This technique allows a high dose of radiation to be delivered to the prostate while minimizing damage to the surrounding tissues," he says. The procedure takes approximately 90 minutes and most patients go home the same day. A radiation oncologist and urologist perform the procedure. "The best candidates for this procedure are patients who have a cancer that is contained within the prostate and is not very aggressive," says Dr. Jack Z. Wang, Radiation Oncologist. "Brachytherapy strengthens the treatment options for people in our community," he stated.

"We continue to focus on our commitment to the community we serve by providing new technology and treatments in cancer care," says Gordon Mudler, President/CEO. "The addition of Brachytherapy offers an important new cancer modality, closer to home for prostate cancer patients along the lakeshore," he continued.

Hackley Cancer Center is the lakeshore's only comprehensive community Cancer Center accredited by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer. It provides medical and radiation oncology, cancer surgery and inpatient cancer care supported by a wide range of oncology-specialized services in one convenient location.

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