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Contact: Stuart Jones
 Manager, Community Relations, 231.728.4669
 Hackley Hospital

Hackley Hospital Invests in Major Upgrade of High-Tech Imaging Equipment *MRI & CT Scans Experiencing Significant Growth*

(Muskegon, MI) – A series of recent upgrades in radiology equipment at Hackley Hospital brings state-of-the-art imaging technology and reduced wait times for CT scan and MRI procedures to area residents.

States Daniel Mapes, Manager of Radiology at Hackley Hospital, “These two new CT and MRI machines provide state-of-the-art diagnostic accuracy and a more comfortable patient experience.”

On-line at Hackley Hospital beginning Monday, September 16 is a new \$1 million mutli-slice CT scanner. The multi-slice CT technology is new to Hackley Hospital and the Muskegon area.

States Mapes, “This CT technology is amazing. We haven’t had anything like it before. The images produced by this machine are of the highest quality and scans are performed in seconds. Patients and physicians are going to be thrilled with it.”

The new equipment has the following enhancements over previous technology:

- An eight-fold increase in speed allowing Hackley Hospital to scan longer distances at greater speeds, thus creating images that have more clarity;
- Revolutionary CARE Dose technology which adapts radiation levels instantaneously during procedures to create the best images possible with the lowest amount of radiation necessary;
- CARE Vision, providing continuous monitoring of needle placement in order to improve accuracy during biopsies or drainage procedures;
- Perfusion CT which permits the viewing of blood perfusion of brain tissue affected by acute stroke;
- CT angiography for viewing vessels, aneurysms, plaques or other blockages.

Hackley Hospital also has upgraded its MRI technology with the addition of a \$1.7 million Siemens MAGNOM MR machine. Advantages of this technology include the following:

- Enhanced diagnostic efficiency and accuracy resulting in higher quality images for physicians;
- Shorter scanner bore, creating a less claustrophobic environment for the patient;
- Ability to accommodate heavier patients;
- Lighting, cooling and ability to play compact disc music within the scanner bore thus improving patient comfort;

Prior to the new MRI machine, wait times as long as two weeks for non-emergency MRI procedures existed. With expanded service available since late summer with the new machine, patient backlogs have been reduced to three days at most with same day service occasionally available. “There’s nothing worse for a worried patient to be forced to wait an extended time period for a test,” adds Mapes. “Our patients have been thrilled to learn of our quick scheduling.”

Last year, Hackley Hospital provided more than 4,800 MRI procedures and 12,000 CT scan and expects those numbers to increase substantially in the coming years.

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is a technique that uses a magnetic field and radio waves to create cross-sectional images of the human body. The collected data can be used to create a composite, three-dimensional representation of one’s body. MRI images are particularly helpful for examination of the brain, neck, spinal cord and soft tissues and are often used in the diagnosis of central nervous system disorders. In addition, MRI can be helpful for evaluating joint, ligament, muscle and bone problems.

A computed axial tomography (CT) scan is a type of x-ray that uses a computer to produce detailed cross-sectional images, or “slices,” of parts of the body. It is an x-ray technique that produces more detailed images of internal organs than do conventional x-rays. CT scans can pinpoint a tumor or infection deep in the brain, abdomen or chest. Because of their speed and superior visualization of soft tissue structures, CT scans are invaluable in the detection of trauma to the brain and abdomen and also for guidance in surgery and biopsies, draining cysts and abscesses, and targeting radiation therapy.

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