

May 27, 2003

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Hackley Hospital Invests in Major Upgrade of Mammography Equipment

(Muskegon, MI) – Hackley Hospital announces a significant capital investment in mammography equipment at Hackley’s Breast Imaging Center. Recently purchased equipment include the Siemens Mammomat 3000 breast imaging machine and the R2 Image Checker.

The Siemens Mammomat 3000 equipment provides the highest quality of breast images while utilizing the lowest possible radiation dose. It employs a controlled compression system during the test resulting in the most comfortable compression force for the patient. The R2 Image Checker is a mammography CAD system that provides a computerized “second look” at breast images. This technology increases the earlier detection of cancers by up to 23.4%. A Radiologist and the R2 Image Checker read screening and diagnostic examinations.

States Daniel Mapes, Manager of Radiology at Hackley Hospital, “This new equipment is very patient friendly. It is more comfortable for the woman, higher in accuracy, and will provide a computerized second look to assist in the early detection of breast cancer.”

Adds Mapes, “This equipment represents the most scientifically proven equipment on the market today. It’s simply the best. The number of false positive tests – a major source of needless worry for women – is greatly reduced utilizing these two pieces of equipment in tandem.”

In an April 2003 edition of *The Lancet*, a medical journal, an international study on the survival benefits of mammography concluded that mammography reduces breast cancer deaths by 28% among women aged 40 to 69.

According to the American Cancer Society Guidelines for the Early Detection of Breast Cancer, women age 40 and older should have a mammogram every year. The American Cancer Society estimates that 211,300 women in the United States will be found to have invasive breast cancer in 2003 and approximately 39,800 women will die from the disease. Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women, other than skin cancer. It is the second leading cause of cancer death in women, after lung cancer. Having one first-degree relative (mother, sister, or daughter) with breast cancer approximately doubles a woman's risk, and having two first-degree relatives increases her risk five-fold.

The cost of the new equipment is \$300,000. Annually, 11,000 mammogram tests are performed at Hackley’s Breast Imaging Center. Appointments may be scheduled with or without a physician referral by calling 728-4092.

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