HEALTH AWARENESS

Cutting-Edge Therapy Zeros In On Cancer Treatment

(NAPSA)—There may be good news for patients undergoing radiation therapy and the hospitals that treat them. That's because a well-known manufacturer of medical technology has developed a new approach to Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT).

Rather than have a single large radiation beam pass through the body, IMRT allows very precise external beams of radiotherapy treatments to target the diseased area of the body with a number of small radiation beams. This results in a higher dosage to the target tumor and a lower dose to the surrounding healthy tissues.

IMRT has been shown to provide greater benefits to patients by improving recovery time and reducing side effects and complications associated with conventional radiation therapy treatments.

Radiotherapy side effects that were commonly accepted with conventional treatments are reduced with IMRT. This can lead to an improvement in a patient's quality of life.

However, given the rapid rate at which technology advances, some hospitals have been reluctant to invest in the technology, fearing that today's investment will be outdated tomorrow.

Fortunately, the Oncology Care Systems Division of Siemens Medical Solutions has come up with a way for health care facilities to protect their investment by introducing an approach to IMRT that is scal-



With IMRT, many small beams of radiation allow physicians to sculpt the dose precisely around the tumor for a more targeted treatment.

able and modular. This makes it possible—and economical—for a hospital to upgrade their existing treatment system as needed for IMRT delivery.

In addition, they offer a worldwide customer care network so institutions can get the equipment up and running and have access to application and product information.

These kinds of innovations in medical technology are nothing new for Siemens. The company worked closely with Roentgen in 1895, closely following his discovery of X-rays, to develop the first X-ray tubes.

To learn more about this and other products, visit the Web site at www.seimensmedical.com.