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NEWS RELEASE

For release: Immediate

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Mercy Medical Center adds new technology for cancer care

CEDAR RAPIDS, IA (June 1, 2026) – Mercy Medical Center has added new technology to its radiation therapy program that helps doctors deliver cancer treatment with greater accuracy and comfort for patients.

The new system, called Surface-Guided Radiation Therapy (SGRT), works alongside Mercy’s TrueBeam radiation system to help care teams ensure that patients are in the right position during treatment both before radiation begins and throughout the session. Using specialized cameras, the technology monitors a patient’s position and natural breathing in real time, allowing providers to account for movement that occurs as a patient breathes. The system can automatically pause treatment if movement is detected.

“This technology gives us added confidence that treatment is being delivered exactly where it needs to be,” said Dr. Wook Lee, radiation oncologist at Mercy’s Hall-Perrine Cancer Center. “It helps us protect healthy tissue while keeping patients comfortable and informed during their care.”

Unlike traditional radiation therapy that may require small permanent skin marks for alignment, SGRT uses advanced cameras to position patients without tattoos. SGRT can also reduce the need for repeat imaging or repositioning. As a result, treatments are often quicker, easier and less stressful for patients.

Mercy plans to use SGRT for a variety of cancers, including breast cancer and other treatments where precise positioning is especially important.

“Bringing this technology to Mercy reflects our commitment to providing advanced, patient-centered cancer care close to home,” Dr. Lee said.

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About Mercy

Mercy Cedar Rapids is a Catholic healthcare system serving patients and families in eastern Iowa. In addition to Mercy Medical Center (its fully accredited, 424-licensed-bed hospital in downtown Cedar Rapids, Iowa), the system also has an established network of specialty clinics and MercyCare primary and urgent care clinics located throughout Cedar Rapids and surrounding communities. PINC AI™ and Fortune have named Mercy Medical Center among the nation's 100 Top Hospitals multiple times in the last 20 years based on clinical, operational, financial and patient satisfaction data. Founded in 1900 by the Sisters of Mercy, Mercy remains dedicated to its mission of caring for the sick and enhancing the health of the communities it serves. For more information, visit www.mercycare.org, or follow Mercy on Facebook, Instagram, X, LinkedIn, TikTok or YouTube.

