

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## **FEBRUARY 2016**

## Life Healthcare brings high-tech radiation cancer treatment to SA patients

The Group celebrates continued efforts for making advanced cancer care a reality for more South

Africans this World Cancer Day

**Johannesburg, South Africa:** This World Cancer Day (4 February 2016), <u>Life Healthcare Group</u>, contributes to this important day's message of 'We Can. I Can.', by making digital, sophisticated radiation cancer technology available right here in South Africa and utilising a highly qualified and dedicated team to ensure that patients get the best care possible.

Cancer is a condition that affects not only cancer patients but their family and community as a whole, from diagnosis to treatment, and should be managed as a collective with all role players doing their part to achieve the best outcomes for patients. "At Life Healthcare we are especially proud of the advances we've made in offering a technologically innovative oncology centre at our Life Vincent Pallotti Hospital. We strive to deliver market leading quality care across our service offerings and one of the ways we can do this is through being at the forefront of providing innovative technology to our patients", says André Meyer, Chief Executive Officer of Life Healthcare Group.

The cutting edge technology comes in the form of the Novalis Tx<sup>™</sup> Stereotactic RadioSurgery unit launched at Life Vincent Pallotti Hospital two years ago and provides advanced radiation therapy to cancer patients with difficult to reach tumours. The Novalis Tx<sup>™</sup> shapes the radiation beam precisely to patient's tumours, ensuring that the best possible treatment dose is delivered while healthy tissue is protected. The radiation beam also adapts to the patient's breathing and other body movements to continuously maintain safe, complete and accurate treatment. The unit rotates around the patient to deliver treatment beams anywhere in the body from virtually any angle. It offers fast treatment session and gives new hope to patients with tumours once considered untreatable.

"We are also proud to announce that this technology is being made available in two additional Life Healthcare facilities later this year, namely Life Hilton Private Hospital (Midlands, KZN) and Life Eugene Marais Hospital (Pretoria, Gauteng)", added Meyer.

Previously a technology only available overseas, South African oncologists and patients now have the opportunity to benefit from this new standard in radiosurgery treatment.

Elizabeth\*, a 60 year old breast cancer patient described her situation as very serious. "The organs around the tumour couldn't tolerate any more radiation, and so the treatments had to be focused very precisely. Honestly, this felt like my last shot at being treated. But as they were describing what Novalis Tx<sup>™</sup> can do, the clinicians projected a positive, can-do attitude that really helped to restore my hopes for a positive outcome. After the first four sessions, I felt well enough to go back to work. On the last day of treatment, which fell on a Saturday, I left the centre and was able to go on with my usual weekend activities."

Vincent Pallotti Hospital Oncology Centre's services include comprehensive cancer management incorporating chemotherapy, radiotherapy (including Brachytherapy and stereotactic radiotherapy) together with an extensive counselling programme. Life Healthcare offers oncology services at a number of its hospitals. Details available on <a href="https://www.lifehealthcare.co.za">www.lifehealthcare.co.za</a>.

\* Patient name changed for confidentiality purposes.

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For more information or to set up an interview please contact:

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## **About Life Healthcare Group**

The Life Healthcare Group has more than 32 years' experience in the private healthcare and hospital industry. With headquarters in Johannesburg, South Africa, the Group is a listed company on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange. The company's primary business is private acute hospital care with 63 healthcare facilities in seven of South Africa's nine provinces and one hospital in Botswana, as well

as providing services for acute physical rehabilitation, acute mental healthcare and renal dialysis. Life Healthcare is the first and only South African hospital group to have achieved a multisite IS09001 certification. Life Occupational Healthcare services both occupational health and employee wellness to private and public employers. The Group includes an international presence through Max Healthcare in India and Scanmed Multimedis in Poland. For additional information about the Group, please visit lifehealthcare.co.za.