



Lakeway Regional Medical Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lakeway Regional Medical Center Acquires Philips PET/CT Diagnostic Imaging System

Lakeway, TX (May 24, 2013) — Lakeway Regional Medical Center (LRMC) announced today that it has acquired a Philips GEMINI TruFlight (TF) PET/CT system, combining Positron Emission Tomography (PET) and Computed Tomography (CT) imaging technologies in one scanner. PET/CT is a powerful diagnostic approach that can help physicians to make more accurate evaluations and help determine the most beneficial course of action. PET/CT has been shown to provide exceptional performance for many applications, including oncology, cardiology and brain imaging.

“We’re very pleased to be able to offer our patients this important advancement in diagnostic imaging,” said Dr. Kevin Barker. “The Philips GEMINI TF system is advantageous in many ways – it allows us to merge PET and CT when needed, yet operates equally well for stand-alone PET or CT exams.”

In some cases, PET renders critical diagnostic information that other imaging tests may not provide. While other techniques such as X-ray or CT show structural anatomy, PET presents metabolic activity within the body. These metabolic “hot spots” and corresponding functional abnormalities can reveal disease states before structural damage is evident. In some instances, this early detection can alter the course of action. For instance, a physician may be able to avoid sending a patient for a biopsy or another invasive procedure. This in turn can help lower the cost of care.

The most common applications of PET in cancer patients are for aiding diagnosis when other tests are inconclusive, staging the extent of cancer, and detecting recurrent disease before it escalates or spreads.

With the GEMINI TF system, PET studies are often fused with CT images to provide a more thorough assessment. Incorporating the CT image data allows clinicians to better view structural detail, such as the location of changes in tissue, or the size of the changes. The new TF (TruFlight) system features third-generation Time-of-Flight imaging technology, which according to Philips, acquires and processes information in a whole new way compared to conventional scanners. TruFlight sets new benchmarks in imaging sensitivity, speed, and enhances clinical performance in the scans of larger patients, which can present challenges.

In addition, the GEMINI TF is particularly patient friendly. Physicians can acquire diagnostic CT, PET or PET/CT images from just one non-invasive scan. With TruFlight Time-of-Flight technology, whole body PET exams are faster than ever before – in some cases, requiring ten minutes or less. And, the system features a unique open gantry that promotes patient comfort and allows staff to interact with the patient during the scan.

“Some patients are apprehensive about the full enclosure of a traditional imaging gantry, so the Philips system is a huge improvement toward helping patients relax and feel more comfortable,” said Dr. Kevin Barker. “We find that patients really appreciate being able to see and talk to our technologists while on the table. And with the speed of Time-of-Flight image processing, patients are always surprised that they’re not

on the table very long.”

About Lakeway Regional Medical Center

Lakeway Regional Medical Center brings experience, advanced technology and best practices to provide high-quality care for patients. Since opening in April 2012, LRMC has been providing comprehensive, compassionate and modern medical treatment. As a full-service hospital with board-certified physicians, LRMC manages everything from emergencies to outpatient procedures. Ranked among the top 10 percentile of hospitals nationwide by Healthstream, an independent research company for outpatient services in 2012. For more information about LRMC, visit lakewayregional.com or call 512-571-5000.