

CYBERKNIFE CENTERS OF SAN DIEGO

Oncology

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For nearly 70 years, Radiation Medical Group, the premier radiation-oncology group in San Diego, has served the community and developed innovative procedures to treat cancer patients.

The center's physicians offer patients the most advanced cancer treatments available, such as IMRT and stereotactic radiotherapy. One year ago the physicians opened San Diego Cyberknife Center, the first in the area to offer this cutting-edge technology that is giving cancer patients new hope. The response from patients and physicians has been so positive that the group is opening an Encinitas Cyberknife Center in November.

The CyberKnife Stereotactic Radiosurgery system, the only robotic radiosurgical system approved by the FDA for tumor treatment anywhere in the body, destroys tumors with pinpoint accuracy, without surgery and with minimal risk of damage to surrounding tissue. According to Dr. Damon Smith, president of Radiation Medical Group, CyberKnife technology represents a quantum leap in how tumors and other lesions can be treated.

"Cyberknife's robotic precision allows physicians to deliver as much as three to four times the amount of traditional radiation straight to the tumor, with far less radiation to the surrounding tissue than other



PHOTOGRAPH BY GRAHAM BLAIR

Top Doctors (seated) Gina Mansy, M.D.; Yonina Tova, M.D.; (standing) Damon Smith, M.D., Tahir Ijaz, M.D. & Donald Fuller, M.D.

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approaches," explains Dr. Smith.

While radiosurgery (using radiation to shrink and destroy tumors) is not a new science, physicians say CyberKnife technology takes radiosurgery to a new level and is a promising option for people whose tumors have been diagnosed as inoperable, including tu-

mors in the lung, pancreas, liver, prostate, spine and brain.

"Our team of talented physicians, medical physicists and technical staff—among the best in San Diego—has made it possible to bring Cyberknife and other advanced cancer treatment options to our patients," says Dr. Fuller.