

## OSF Cancer Center in Bloomington Ready for Patients

OSF HealthCare is celebrating the completion of the new OSF Cancer Center on the OSF St. Joseph Medical Center campus.

The OSF Cancer Center is located on the first floor of the OSF Center for Health at 210 St. Joseph Drive in Bloomington, Illinois. OSF HealthCare and community leaders gathered for a ribbon cutting and a blessing of the new space on Thursday. The OSF Cancer Center will open its doors to patients on Monday, October 18.

According to OSF St. Joseph president Lynn Fulton, the Bloomington-based OSF Cancer Center is a direct result of OSF HealthCare's commitment to provide convenient access to cancer services for the communities it serves.

"We had this vision of what our Cancer Center could look like here by St. Joseph Medical Center, and this really has fulfilled that vision. Being able to have the physical space that provides the level of care we feel our community deserves, having the latest and greatest in radiation therapy with our brand new TrueBeam, having a PET CT, and then having the people here to provide the services – it really is that full scope," remarked Fulton.

The OSF care team will be ready to guide patients through what is often an overwhelming and frightening time, and bring them the best possible outcome in an environment that fosters compassion, care and concern for a patient's total well-being as well as for their quality of life.

Dr. Kyle Stang, radiation oncologist at OSF St. Joseph Medical Center, says the addition of the OSF Cancer Center provides patients and their families access to comprehensive treatment options close to home.

"In the modern era – cancer care really is delivered most effectively and efficiently in a multi-disciplinary manner," says Dr. Stang. "So being able to offer to our community that high level of multi-disciplinary care with all of our specialty physicians here with our brand new radiation linear accelerator, having that modern technology is really meaningful. It essentially means we can offer to our community the highest level of cancer care, really, that you can find."

The new OSF Cancer Center provides convenient access to myriad of cancer treatments and services. This includes new radiation technology, the TrueBeam system, by Varian Medical Systems. The TrueBeam combines sophisticated imaging, beam delivery, and motion management to accurately and precisely target tumors and protect nearby healthy tissue and critical organs. This technology helps to decrease treatment time allowing for a more comfortable patient experience.

OSF Cancer Center patients will have access to radiation treatment, infusion, genetic counseling, pastoral care and clinical trials. Patients will also be connected with a nurse navigator, something Fulton says will be a life line for patients and their families.

"We are able to connect the navigator with the patient very early on in the diagnosis, and so anytime a patient or their family has a question they have the phone number of that navigator. They can call, they can ask that question, they can ask for advice, and they have that one point of contact," explained Fulton.

OSF Cancer Center at OSF St. Joseph is connected to the overall OSF cancer services based out of OSF Saint Francis in Peoria. This provides patients with increased treatment options as well as opportunities for participation in clinical trials. Our physicians will be able to collaborate real-time with their counterparts in Peoria.