

Laser Beam Technology Heals Brain Tumor Patients (Broadcast)

INTRO:

IT'S NOT STAR WARS. IT'S BRAIN SURGERY.

NOW – SELECT BRAIN TUMOR PATIENTS IN THE PEORIA AREA HAVE A MINIMALLY INVASIVE... EFFICIENT WAY TO RECEIVE A DIAGNOSIS... AND GET THEIR TUMOR REMOVED.

TAKE VO

IT'S CALLED NEUROBLATE – WHICH TREATS TUMORS WITH THERMAL ENERGY. IT'S A LASER THAT ADMINISTERS THE ENERGY THROUGH VERY SMALL PROBES THE SIZE OF A WIRE... DONE THROUGH A VERY SMALL INCISION. THE TECHNOLOGY ALLOWS BRAIN SURGEONS AT OSF HEALTHCARE TO GET RID OF THE TUMOR... WHILE GETTING A BIOPSY SPECIMEN TO CONFIRM WHAT THEY'RE TREATING.

DR. ANDREW TSUNG (**SUNG**) – THE VICE PRESIDENT OF OSF HEALTHCARE ILLINOIS NEUROLOGICAL INSTITUTE... DESCRIBES HOW THE TECHNOLOGY WORKS.

TAKE SOT | DR. ANDREW TSUNG | VICE PRESIDENT | OSF HEALTHCARE ILLINOIS NEUROLOGICAL INSTITUTE

"We insert it to a target. By taking temperature measurements through the MRI machine and calculations, we're able to control the radius, or the spread of that current through the tumor and stop it at the three-dimensional boundary between where the tumor ends and the brain starts," Dr. Tsung says.

VO TAG

NEUROBLATE HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED AS A VIABLE TREATMENT FOR BRAIN TUMORS. ROUGHLY A HANDFUL OF PATIENTS HAVE RECEIVED THE TREATMENT AT OSF... WITH MORE COMING SOON... DR. TSUNG SAYS.

ADDITIONAL INFO/SOUNDBITES

Potential patients for NeuroBlate could have brain tumors, Glioblastoma (cancerous brain tumor), high-grade glioma, low-grade glioma (growing tumors), or metastatic brain cancer, also known as secondary brain tumors. The size of the tumor matters. NeuroBlate is effective on tumors three centimeters or less. Epilepsy patients can also benefit from this treatment.

NeuroBlate decreases recovery time drastically

"The patients oftentimes will not require any pain medication following brain surgery, which is quite astonishing," Dr. Tsung says. "When you make such a small incision, there's minimal disruption to the tissues. The brain itself does not have any pain sensors. That prevents us from using any pain medication. The recovery is quite fast. In patient cases we've done so far, the first patient used no pain medications and was ready to go home by 8 a.m. the next morning."

OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center is the only medical center in the Peoria region that offers NeuroBlate.

From the patient arriving to undergoing the surgery and then leaving, the whole process only took 16 hours. Most brain surgery patients are in the hospital for at least two nights and then recover with weight restrictions (in terms of lifting). All of this is avoided when using NeuroBlate. Setup takes three to five hours, but treatment time for the patient is three or less minutes.

For more information on NeuroBlate and other neurological services, learn more about OSF INI on the [OSF website](#).