March 7, 2007

ST. FRANCIS REGIONAL CANCER CENTER
APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION ON CANCER
OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

St. Francis Regional Cancer Center at St. Francis Medical, a Fox Chase Cancer Center Partner, received a Three-Year Approval with Commendation following on-site evaluation by a physician surveyor. During this evaluation, the Regional Cancer Center demostrated a Commendation level of compliance with six standards that represent the full scope of the cancer program (cancer committee leadership, cancer data management, clinical services, research, community outreach, and quality improvement). In addition, St. Francis received a compliance rating for all other standards.

Receiving care at a CoC (Commission on Cancer)-approved cancer program, like the Regional Cancer Center at St. Francis, ensures that a patient will have access to:

- Comprehensive care, including a range of state-of-the-art services and equipment
- A multi-specialty, team approach to coordinate the best treatment options
- Access to cancer-related information, education, and support
- A cancer registry that collects data on type and stage of cancers and treatment results and offers lifelong patient follow-up
- Ongoing monitoring and improvement of care
- Quality care close to home

The Approvals Program, a component of the CoC, sets quality-of-care standards for cancer programs and reviews the programs to ensure they conform to the standards. Approval by the CoC is given to those facilities that have voluntarily committed to providing the highest level of quality cancer care and that undergo a rigorous evaluation process and review of their performance. To maintain approval, facilities must undergo on-site review every three years.

Only 25% of hospitals in the United States and its territories have approved cancer programs and St. Francis Medical Center is among this elite group. It is estimated that 80% of all newly diagnosed cancer patients are treated in these facilities.