

**Contact:** Megan Maloney  
805.542.6498

## **French Hospital Medical Center and San Luis Diagnostic Center Acquire the General Electric 3D Breast Tomosynthesis**

*The most innovative mammography technology available provides a clearer,  
more accurate view for breast exams*

**SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA – November 12, 2015** – French Hospital Medical Center (FHMC), a member of the Dignity Health system that locally also includes Arroyo Grande Community Hospital and Marian Regional Medical Center, is proud to announce the purchase of two new and technologically advanced GE SenoClaire 3D Breast Tomosynthesis (DBT) mammography imaging machines. The new mammography machine has been installed at French Hospital’s outpatient imaging center, San Luis Diagnostic Center, and is currently being installed at French Hospital. The San Luis Diagnostic Center began breast tomosynthesis scans on Monday, November 9, 2015. These new machines are due to the generosity of community donors whose donations totaled \$210,000 to the French Hospital Foundation.

GE’s SenoClaire Breast Tomosynthesis is a three-dimensional imaging technology that uses a low-dose short X-ray sweep around the compressed breast. The SenoClaire detector delivers high quality digital imagery at low dose that delivers greater accuracy in finding size, shape, and location of any breast irregularities. In addition to standard digital mammography scanning, breast tomosynthesis takes multiple images of the entire breast which allows our specialized radiologists to see through layers of breast tissue and examine all areas from all viewpoints.

“Due to its low dose and non-inferior clinical accuracy, the GE SenoClaire has the potential to replace digital mammography exams in screening to detect breast cancer,” explains Dr. Fred Vernacchia, San Luis Diagnostic Center Medical Director. “It’s an excellent balance of precision and performance, so you can be confident that its detector delivers high quality digital imagery at low dose for visualizing microcalcifications without binning, a process that regroups pixels for faster readout speeds and improved signal-to-noise ratios.”

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The French Hospital Medical Center Foundation is a non-profit, public benefit organization with the purpose to raise funds for FHMC through charitable contributions for the betterment of community health care. The FHMC Foundation relies on the generosity of the community to help support hospital efforts of providing quality health care for local programs and services.

“The Foundation’s ability to fund this new technology at French Hospital is made possible through the generous support of the San Luis Obispo community,” states, Debby Nicklas, FHMC Vice President of Philanthropy. “The GE SenoClaire Breast Tomosynthesis technology is a great example of how community support continues to drive the advances in quality, safety, and service at French.”

Individuals interested in supporting French Hospital’s health care mission, programs, and services for patients and families of San Luis Obispo County can contact the FHMC Foundation at 805.542.6496 or [SupportFrenchHospital.org](http://SupportFrenchHospital.org)

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### **About French Hospital Medical Center**

French Hospital Medical Center, located in San Luis Obispo, California, is rated one of the Top 100 Hospitals in the nation and one of the Top 50 Cardiac Hospitals in the nation by Thomson Reuters. The Copeland, Forbes, and Rossi Cardiac Care Center provides the latest innovative cardiac and imaging technology on the Central Coast. The hospital’s current modernization and redesign project is an example of the commitment to meet the growing needs of the community with lifesaving advancements in medicine coupled with excellent, compassionate care. The hospital is home to the unique Hearst Cancer Resource Center offering free education, resources, and support to cancer patients and their families. French is a Dignity Health member of the Central Coast which also includes Arroyo Grande Community Hospital in Arroyo Grande, CA and Marian Regional Medical Center in Santa Maria, CA. Dignity Health of the Central Coast is an integrated network of top quality hospitals, physicians from the most prestigious medical schools, and comprehensive outpatient services including primary care offices, premier ambulatory surgery centers, technologically-advanced laboratories and imaging centers, and a full service home health agency; all recognized for quality, safety, and service. Each hospital is supported by an active philanthropic foundation to help meet the growing health care needs of our communities.