



Larry Gandle, MD, is a Board-certified radiation oncologist. He received his undergraduate degree in biology from Tulane University College of Arts and Sciences, New Orleans, LA, where he

graduated *cum laude* and went on to complete his medical degree at Tulane University School of Medicine. He served his internship in general surgery at Montefiore Hospital, where he also completed residencies in general surgery, urology, and radiation oncology. He is a member of the American College of Radiology, Radiologic Society of North America, and American Medical Association.



Sawsan G. Bishay, MD, is a board-certified radiation oncologist. She completed her undergraduate degree and received her medical degree from the Alexandria University School of Medicine. She served

her internship in internal medicine at the Methodist Hospital of Brooklyn and went on to complete a residency in the radiation oncology department. Dr. Bishay was the Chief Resident in the radiation oncology department of the New York Methodist Hospital and is a member of the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology.

Board-certified cancer specialists on board!

The doctors at Florida Cancer Institute welcome any questions regarding this article and other related topics. For further information, call **(813) 783-1676**. The Zephyrhills office is located at **38010 Medical Center Ave.**

Advanced cancer care close to home

Florida Cancer Institute

Larry Gandle, MD • Sawsan G. Bishay, MD

I am pleased to note that since January 2005 we have been offering comprehensive cancer care in our newest center, serving the Spring Hill/Brooksville community," says Sawsan G. Bishay, MD, of Florida Cancer Institute.

"In the treatment of cancer, oncologists have reached an era of preservation of organs and *combined modality therapy*, which involves the use of chemotherapy and radiation treatment. Most patients tolerate the combined modality treatment approach quite well.

"We also offer seed implants for prostate cancer, a treatment known as *brachytherapy*."

Dr. Bishay explains that the radiation oncologist usually determines the optimum treatment planning offered to each cancer patient.

"As radiation oncologists, what we have been trying to do for the last few years is to deliver the optimum radiation dose to control the disease while at the same time minimizing side effects to the surrounding tissue. Today, this can be accomplished with *intensity modulated radiation treatment* (IMRT). IMRT involves the delivery of optimized, non-uniform beam intensities to tumor tissue," she explains.

Dr. Bishay notes that the information and images generated as a result of three-

dimensional conformal treatment planning accomplish several things. "They permit us to more quickly and effectively locate tumor sites, to provide more effective and precisely targeted doses of needed radiation, and to reduce the side effects that can follow radiation therapy by avoiding unnecessary exposure to surrounding structures. Additionally, patients are able to tolerate chemotherapy now even better than before, thanks to the newest nausea-control medications."

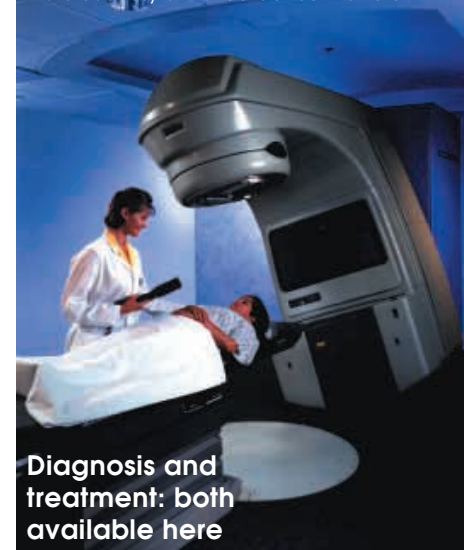
Treating the whole person

In addition to providing the most advanced cancer care available to the community, Florida Cancer Institute offers much more, including cancer support groups such as the Man to Man prostate cancer group.

"They meet here once a month," says Dr. Bishay. "One of our radiation therapists, who has been working with us for years, handles all the scheduling by calling patients and arranging for speakers. It's a valuable tool for prostate cancer survivors."

For any cancer diagnosed, emphasizes Dr. Bishay, the key to successful treatment is early diagnosis. "The earlier cancer is diagnosed, the better chance of controlling it locally as well as improving the chance for the best possible quality of life for the patient." **FHCN—Michael J. Sabno**

Photo courtesy of Florida Cancer Institute



Diagnosis and treatment: both available here

Please visit the Florida Cancer Institute location most convenient for you.

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Zephyrhills

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Spring Hill Regional Hospital)
(352) 688-7744
Spring Hill

7154 Medical Center Dr.
(352) 596-1926
Spring Hill

8763 River Crossing Blvd.
(727) 842-8411
New Port Richey

13906 Lakeshore Blvd.,
Suite 330
(727) 863-8563
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