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Director of Breast Care Services at The Cancer Institute of New Jersey Receives Pearl Grace Award
Dr. Thomas Kearney Honored by Breast Cancer Survivorship Group

New Brunswick, N.J., December 3, 2007 – Thomas Kearney, M.D., FACS, director, breast care services and chief, section of breast surgery at The Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ); and associate professor of surgery at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School was honored this past weekend by the breast cancer survivorship group known as Sisters Network of Central New Jersey (SNCNJ) with “The Pearl Grace Award” during the organization’s Seventh Annual Health Summit and Breakfast in New Brunswick.

The annual award is given to those who distinguish themselves by their dedication and professional services that expand the mission of the non-profit organization, which is to increase local and national attention to the devastating impact that breast cancer has on the African-American community. Pearl Grace was one of four women who helped found the Franklin Township-based SNCNJ in 2000. She succumbed to breast cancer in 2001, but she is credited by SNCNJ for being the driving force behind the organization’s success in being a strong, viable community service organization.

According to SNCNJ, Dr. Kearney, a surgical oncologist from Princeton was presented with the honor for exemplifying Pearl Grace’s professionalism, dedication and commitment to excellence in the treatment of a young SNCNJ member, who had no access to health coverage. In a letter to Kearney from SNCNJ Public Relations Director L. Bebe Major, it notes, “Medical professionals, such as you [Dr. Kearney], make a positive difference in the lives of those experiencing hardship. We appreciate your service to humankind.”

About The Cancer Institute of New Jersey

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey is the state’s first and only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, and is dedicated to improving the prevention, detection, treatment and care of patients with cancer. CINJ’s physician-scientists engage in translational research, transforming their laboratory discoveries into clinical practice quite literally bringing research to life. The Cancer Institute of New Jersey is a center of excellence of UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. To support CINJ, please call the Cancer Institute of New Jersey Foundation at 1-888-333-CINJ.

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey Network is comprised of hospitals throughout the state and provides a mechanism to rapidly disseminate important discoveries into the community. Partner Hospitals: Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, Atlantic Health (Morristown Memorial Hospital and Overlook Hospital). Affiliate Hospitals: Bayshore Community Hospital, CentraState Healthcare System, Cooper University Hospital*, Jersey Shore University Medical Center, JFK Medical Center, Raritan Bay Medical Center, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Hamilton (CINJ-Hamilton), Saint Peter’s University Hospital, Somerset Medical Center, Southern Ocean County Hospital, The University Hospital/UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School*, and University Medical Center at Princeton. *Academic Affiliate

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