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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cottage Hospital Now Provides the Latest in Mammography

Woodsville, NH - Women who undergo routine mammograms at Cottage Hospital Women's Imaging Center now have the latest diagnostic technology available to them, full field digital mammography. Cottage Hospital is the first healthcare provider in the Upper Connecticut River Valley to feature the state-of-the-art system, Selenia™ digital mammography from Hologic™ with a tungsten detector, which significantly reduces a radiation dose.

Cottage is very excited to be able to offer the newest technology for breast cancer detection. Digital mammography is different from conventional mammography in how the image of the breast is acquired and, more importantly, viewed. The radiologist can magnify the images, increase or decrease the contrast and invert the black and white values while reading the images. These features allow the radiologist to evaluate microcalcifications and focus on areas of concern.

By offering women the latest technology in mammography, we hope to increase the number of women who follow recommendations for regular screenings. The breast cancer statistics are staggering:

- One of eight women living in the U.S. will get breast cancer in her lifetime.¹
- Breast cancer is the 2nd leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. It's the leading cause of death in 35 to 65 year old women.²

The good news is that if breast cancer is found early, before the cancer has spread, the five year survival rate is 98 percent. Over 2.5 million American women with a history of breast cancer are alive today thanks largely to the many new techniques for finding and treating the disease.

For most women 40 and over, an annual mammogram is the best way of finding breast cancer early. Mammograms play a central part in the early detection of breast cancer because they can detect changes in the breast that may be early signs of cancer, but are too small or subtle to be felt.

The use of mammography and in particular, digital mammography, has greatly enhanced the ability to detect breast cancer at an early stage, when it's most treatable. Digital mammography detected significantly more cancers than screen-film mammography in women 50 and younger, premenopausal and perimenopausal women, and women with dense breasts, according to results from the American College of Radiology

Cottage Hospital is committed to the fight against breast cancer. Women should call 603-747-9213 to see if they would benefit by having a mammogram on the new equipment.

Cottage Hospital is a 25 bed, critical access hospital serving the beautiful Upper Connecticut River Valley. For additional information regarding Cottage Hospital and any of our services, visit us on the web at www.cottagehospital.org, or call (603)747-9000.

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