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## Press Release

### **HYGEIA: 2,000 Gamma Knife procedures performed in the last 10 years**

It has been 10 years since the first Gamma Knife procedure was performed on a patient in Greece, at HYGEIA Hospital. In these 10 years, more than 2,000 treatments for brain, head or neck conditions have been carried out by HYGEIA Hospital's Gamma Knife Brain Radiosurgery Department, with an over 95% success rate for most diagnoses.

The Gamma Knife Brain Radiosurgery Department is equipped with the only Gamma Knife Perfexion system in Greece. The device can non-invasively destroy deeply embedded vascular malformations, brain tumors and even eye tumors, which were once considered inoperable. Gamma Knife treatment is unique as it does not involve incisions, has minimal complications and pain, while it significantly improves the patients' quality of life. It is highly accurate and thus safer compared to other radiosurgery systems.

As noted by the Director of HYGEIA Hospital's Gamma Knife Brain Radiosurgery Department, Dr Michael Torrens, "Gamma-Knife radiosurgery is considered the most significant technical innovation in neurosurgery in the last 20 years. It has allowed approximately 1 million patients worldwide to adequately control their disease, without undergoing the hassles and risks of an open surgical procedure. Neurosurgeons, radiotherapists-oncologists and radiophysicists contribute their expertise to create a treatment program tailored to the needs of each patient. We are extremely proud to celebrate the Department's 10-year anniversary and we hope to continue to offer quality healthcare services, driven by our interest to serve patients and their needs."

The Gamma Knife Brain Radiosurgery Department has conducted internationally innovative studies on radiophysics and the treatment of malignant brain tumors. It also successfully hosted the 15<sup>th</sup> Leksell Gamma Knife Society Meeting in 2010.