



# St. John's Episcopal Hospital

## *Press Release*

### **St. John's Episcopal Hospital Names Mendel Warshawsky, MD, Oncology Chief**

(MARCH 3, 2009) Far Rockaway, NY - - - St. John's Episcopal Hospital recently appointed Mendel M. Warshawsky, MD, Chief of Oncology. Dr. Warshawsky will be responsible for the inpatient consultation and the oncology practice at the Hospital.

John Gupta, Chief Executive Officer of St. John's, said, "We are very pleased to have a doctor of Dr. Warshawsky's caliber join our medical staff. He has the medical qualifications to build upon our oncology program and the caring and compassion to treat patients with dignity and respect."

Dr. Warshawsky worked as an associate rabbi while pursuing his medical degree. Among his rabbinical duties was visiting the sick in hospitals and at home. "I really learned how to talk to people who are sick and to people who are dying," said Dr. Warshawsky. "I came to value how to use family and spirituality, no matter what the patient's religion, to make a person's journey through this illness as tolerable as possible. I think because of these experiences, I have sought a lot of experience in pain management, palliative compassionate care and end-of-life care," he added.

Dr. Warshawsky received his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery from the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa. He also attended College of the Negev and Hebron Academy in Israel. He completed his internship and residency in internal medicine and his fellowship in hematology/oncology at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn. He is board-certified in both internal medicine and medical oncology.

Dr. Warshawsky's wife's family was from Far Rockaway and his grandmother spent her last days at St. John's. After studying and living in South Africa, it was like a homecoming to settle in Long Island and work at St. John's.

Of his treatment philosophy, Dr. Warshawsky said, "Both my wife and I have been personally touched by cancer and we have learned that cancer is not purely a biological disease. The road to cure doesn't only involve chemotherapy, radiation and surgery, but also the love and care of family and community, as well as compassionate, empathetic and talented doctors and nurses. Our experiences have been a huge influence on my clinical outlook."

Dr. Warshawsky may be reached at St. John's Episcopal Hospital at 718-869-7672.

#

#

#

09016