

For more information, please contact:

Sandy Carapezza, (201) 291-6316

acarape@valleyhealth.com

***Valley-Mount Sinai Comprehensive Cancer Care
Cold Cap Therapy for Cancer Patients***

The request:

The Valley Hospital Foundation respectfully requests funding to support Valley-Mount Sinai Comprehensive Cancer Care's Cold Cap Therapy Program. In April 2022, Valley started using the Paxman Scalp Cooling system, which is globally recognized as the leading product for hair-loss prevention during chemotherapy treatment. Scalp cooling is a simple procedure which causes blood vessels to constrict, reducing blood flow to the scalp by 20-40% and minimizing drug diffusion across the plasma membrane to the hair follicles, thereby reducing the likelihood of hair-loss. For patients, this means the opportunity to regain some control, maintain their privacy, and encourage a positive attitude toward treatment.

Unfortunately, few insurance companies cover this type of therapy. As such, this is a direct cost to the patient, capped at \$2,200: \$300/session for the first four, \$200/each for sessions five and six, and \$100/each for sessions seven onward. Depending on a patient's course of treatment, sessions can number anywhere from four to 12. Many patients who may have been interested in proceeding with the Paxman system choose not to move forward, due to the prohibitive costs. Philanthropic funds would not only allow us to cover the cost for our patients, but would allow for preferential pricing from Paxman, whereby the cost of each session is reduced by 25%.

Cancer patients are already dealing with numerous stressors, and being able to support them as much as possible during this process is our ultimate goal as care providers at Valley.

Background:

Chemotherapy is an important part of treatment for the majority of cancers; however, many treatment regimens lead to temporary, or permanent, hair loss. This is widely recognized as one of the most traumatic side effects associated with cancer treatment, with up to 10% refusing chemotherapy, or requesting a less efficacious regimen in order to preserve their hair.

Before the Paxman Cold Cap system, patients interested in cold cap therapy used manual devices, which were very cumbersome. The company has been pioneering scalp cooling technology for over a quarter of a century, and the clinically proven cold cap system has helped over 100,000 cancer patients in more than 50 countries worldwide to retain their hair during chemotherapy. The FDA-approved system - a compact refrigeration unit attached to a patient's personal cooling cap - requires minimal nursing supervision; the process focuses on maintaining patient comfort, and is done in conjunction with their chemotherapy infusions.