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4300 Marsh Ridge Road • Suite 114 • Carrollton, TX 75010  
972.267.1111 • 972.267.3535 (fax) • [www.alarryross.com](http://www.alarryross.com)

**FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT:**  
Steve Yount                      972.267.1111  
[steve@alarryross.com](mailto:steve@alarryross.com)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **CHRISTIAN ONCOLOGIST TAKES UNCONVENTIONAL STAND IN MAMMOGRAM DEBATE: Contreras Says Tests of Little Value in Fighting Breast Cancer**

**WHAT:**                      The United States Preventive Services Task Force, an influential group appointed by the federal Department of Health and Human Services, reversed itself late last year and released new guidelines recommending that most women should start regular breast cancer screening at age 50, not 40. It also said that doctors should stop teaching women to examine their breasts on a regular basis. In the words of Time magazine, the recommendations “created an uproar of alarm and anguish in the medical community, among patients who credit a self-breast exam with saving their lives, and for doctors who question why women should wait until age 50 for something that has proven to save lives among younger women.”

Oncologist Dr. Francisco Contreras believes, contrary to both sides of the argument, that screening mammograms is not what will fight cancer best. Instead, he says that dietary and lifestyle changes are the best weapons in the fight against breast cancer.

**WHO:**                      **Dr. Francisco Contreras**, president of Oasis of Hope Medical Group, which has offices in Mexico and California. He is considered one of the world’s foremost experts on integrative cancer therapies, combining the best of conventional and alternative approaches.

Dr. Contreras is a devout Christian, and many of the principles he uses in treatment have a biblical basis. His late father, Dr. Ernesto Contreras Sr., the visionary behind the hospital, told his associates that when they treated a patient, they were treating a child of God. And unlike other doctors, who often try to maintain an emotional distance, the doctors at Oasis of Hope believe that the art of medicine begins with building a relationship with the patient.

Dr. Contreras and Oasis of Hope have recently been featured on CNN, MSNBC and Fox and Friends. He is the co-author of “Hope, Medicine & Healing.”

**WHEN:**                      By appointment via telephone or in studio in Southern California.

**DETAILS:**

Oasis of Hope, founded by the late Dr. Ernesto Contreras Sr. in 1963 in Playas de Tijuana, Mexico, has treated more than 100,000 patients – 60 percent with cancer – from 55 countries.

Oasis of Hope is pioneering a new approach to cancer treatment called Integrative Regulatory Therapy. Seventy-eight percent of the patients with breast cancer who receive IRT as their first treatment option are alive after four years. Under conventional treatment, such as surgery and chemotherapy, there is a 25 percent survival rate after four years, according to the National Cancer Institute in the United States.

**NOTE:**

For more information or to schedule an interview with Dr. Francisco Contreras, contact Steve Yount of A. Larry Ross Communications at 972.267.1111 or [steve@alarryross.com](mailto:steve@alarryross.com).