

CITY NEWS

DONOR OF THE DAY | By Laura Landro

A Cancer Survivor's Prescription for Care

As both cancer survivor and physician, Eva Andersson-Dubin is all too familiar with the lack of access to coordinated, seamless patient care for patients confronting breast cancer.

That's why she and her husband, philanthropist and hedge-fund executive Glenn Dubin, donated \$15 million and helped raise another \$7.4 million to create the Dubin Breast Center at the Mount Sinai Medical Center, which will be completed next week.

The center, in a 15,000-square-foot space carved out of some old offices on the first floor of the Fifth Avenue Klingenstein Pavillion, is a comprehensive state-of-the-art facility that promises integrated care

for women in one place from the time they are diagnosed through recovery and after-care.

Dr. Andersson-Dubin, a former Miss Sweden and model for the Ford agency, left the glamorous life to attend medical school at the Karolinska Institute School of Medicine in Stockholm, and then at UCLA School of Medicine, where she received her MD. She completed her medical residency at Lenox Hill Hospital, then worked in corporate medical clinics, finding time along the way to marry Mr. Dubin, a co-founder and chief executive of Highbridge Capital, the multi-billion dollar hedge fund owned by J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. The couple have three chil-

dren. They have been active in many charities, and Mr. Dubin was a founding board member of the Robin Hood Foundation, and joined the Mount Sinai Board of Trustees in 2004.

But 3½ years ago, they faced a medical crisis of their own when Dr. Andersson-Dubin was diagnosed with Stage One breast cancer. Despite her professional savvy and connections, she found herself navigating the fragmented world of cancer care, dealing with several doctors who were rarely in communication with each other.

"I had to lug my charts around everywhere and be responsible for everything, and everyone taking care of me was in a different location,"

she says.

That won't be the case at Mount Sinai, where Dr. Andersson-Dubin was intimately involved in every aspect of the new center's design, picking out fabrics and photographs in the welcoming reception area and private chemotherapy infusion rooms, she says. She says she chose Mount Sinai because of its commitment to building up its cancer care and its recruitment of George Rapp, a top oncologist who came from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and formerly worked at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

Dr. Andersson-Dubin frequently confers with Dr. Rapp's surgeon Elisa Port, who

will serve as co-directors of the center. In addition to patient care, the center will have weekly meetings on translational medicine—the incorporation of the latest research findings into treatment.

In addition to clinicians for radiology, medical oncology, surgery, and radiation, the center will provide psychosocial support—including holistic therapies such as massage, nutrition, and patient counseling. With doctors, nurses, and social workers under one roof, Dr. Andersson-Dubin expects communication and teamwork to be easier, making for seamless transitions of care. But most importantly, she says, "the patient's needs are going to come first."

Eva Andersson-Dubin