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**Beth Israel Medical Center's Internationally Renowned Pain Specialist,  
Russell K. Portenoy, M.D., Receives the Contemplative Care Award For  
2011**

*First Annual Awards Presented by the NY Zen Center for Contemplative Care*

New York, NY – May 16, 2011 – Russell K. Portenoy, M.D., chairman of the Department of Pain Medicine and Palliative Care at Beth Israel Medical Center in New York., was one of the first recipients of the Contemplative Care Award for 2011, presented by The New York Zen Center for Contemplative Care (NYZCCC). The NYZCCC is Beth Israel's clinical partner in contemplative-based chaplaincy.

“I am extremely proud to be among the first recipients of the Contemplative Care award,” said Dr. Portenoy. “The chaplains, students and volunteers of the NY Zen Center for Contemplative Care have become valued members of our palliative care team and do amazing work for seriously ill patients and their families.”

This year's award ceremony was co-chaired by musician Laurie Anderson and took place on April 28<sup>th</sup> at Ross Bleckner's studio in Manhattan.

“Through contemplative care, we bring compassion and relief to those who are suffering in pain from illness and disease”, said Koshin Paley Ellison, Co-Founder and Co-Executive Director of NYZCCC. “We are so grateful to Beth Israel Medical Center, who have been our supporters and collaborators for four years. With this partnership, we can continue to give compassionate contemplative care to those who are suffering throughout the hospital. It is an honor to provide care to BI's staff, patients and families.”

The NYZCCC provides passionate care to the sick and terminally ill and creates a supportive, nurturing environment for people to consciously face their illness and/or end-

of-life journeys. This is done through hands-on, direct care partnerships with two of New York's leading healthcare providers, through caregiver and pastoral training programs, and by actively advocating for contemplative care at the national level. This is done, not only to relieve individual suffering, but also to create a more courageous and harmonious world that provides compassionate care for all.