

ASK A RADIATION ONCOLOGIST

Facts vs Myths about Radiation Therapy

[YouTube.com/RTAnswers](https://www.youtube.com/RTAnswers)



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Today's Agenda

- Treatment options for cancer
- Overview of radiation therapy
- Common questions about radiation therapy
- RT Answers patient education materials



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Today's discussion is informational only and should not be used in place of advice specific to your condition from your medical professional.

We will discuss treatments including surgery, chemotherapy and others. We encourage you to talk to other specialists, where appropriate, about other treatments you are considering.



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Treatment Options for Cancer

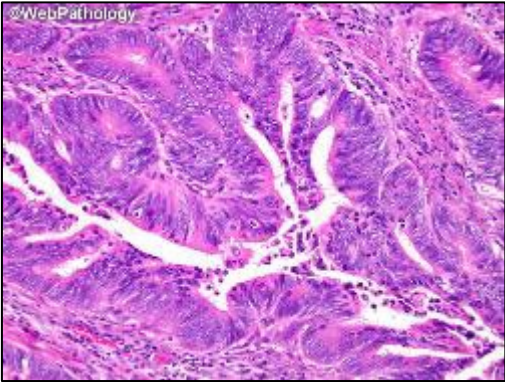


- What doctors are involved with patients with cancer?
- Which types of treatments are offered by each physician?



Treatments

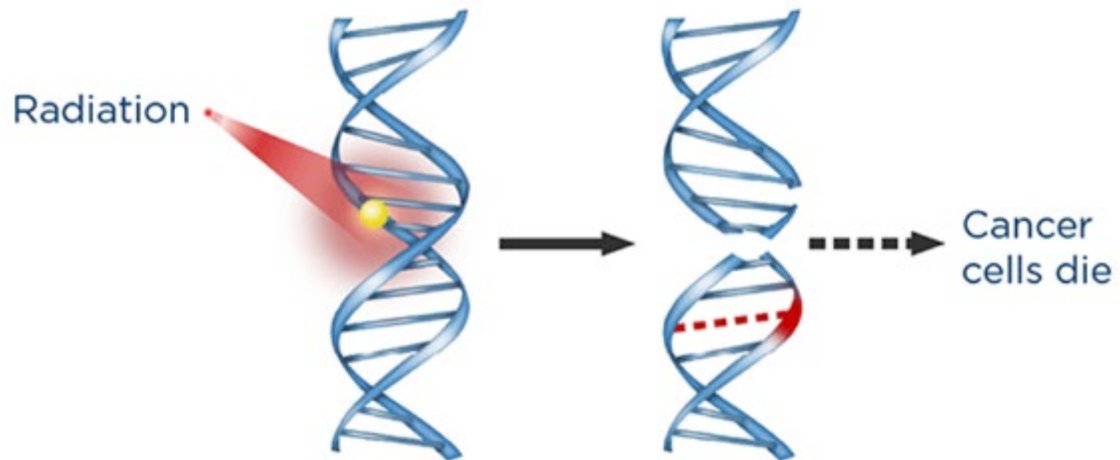
- Does everyone get radiation, chemotherapy & surgery?





Radiation Therapy

- What is radiation therapy?
- How does radiation therapy work?
- How often is radiation therapy given?
 - Why does it need to be given every day?





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Common Questions/ Facts about Radiation Therapy (RT)



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Is RT safe??

Does it make me radioactive & can I be with my family?



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Can I work while getting RT and can I drive?



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Does RT make me lose my hair or burn my skin?



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Can I get RT more than once in my life?



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What's the difference between proton therapy and radiation (photon) therapy?



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If I have to choose between RT, surgery & chemotherapy, why would I choose RT?

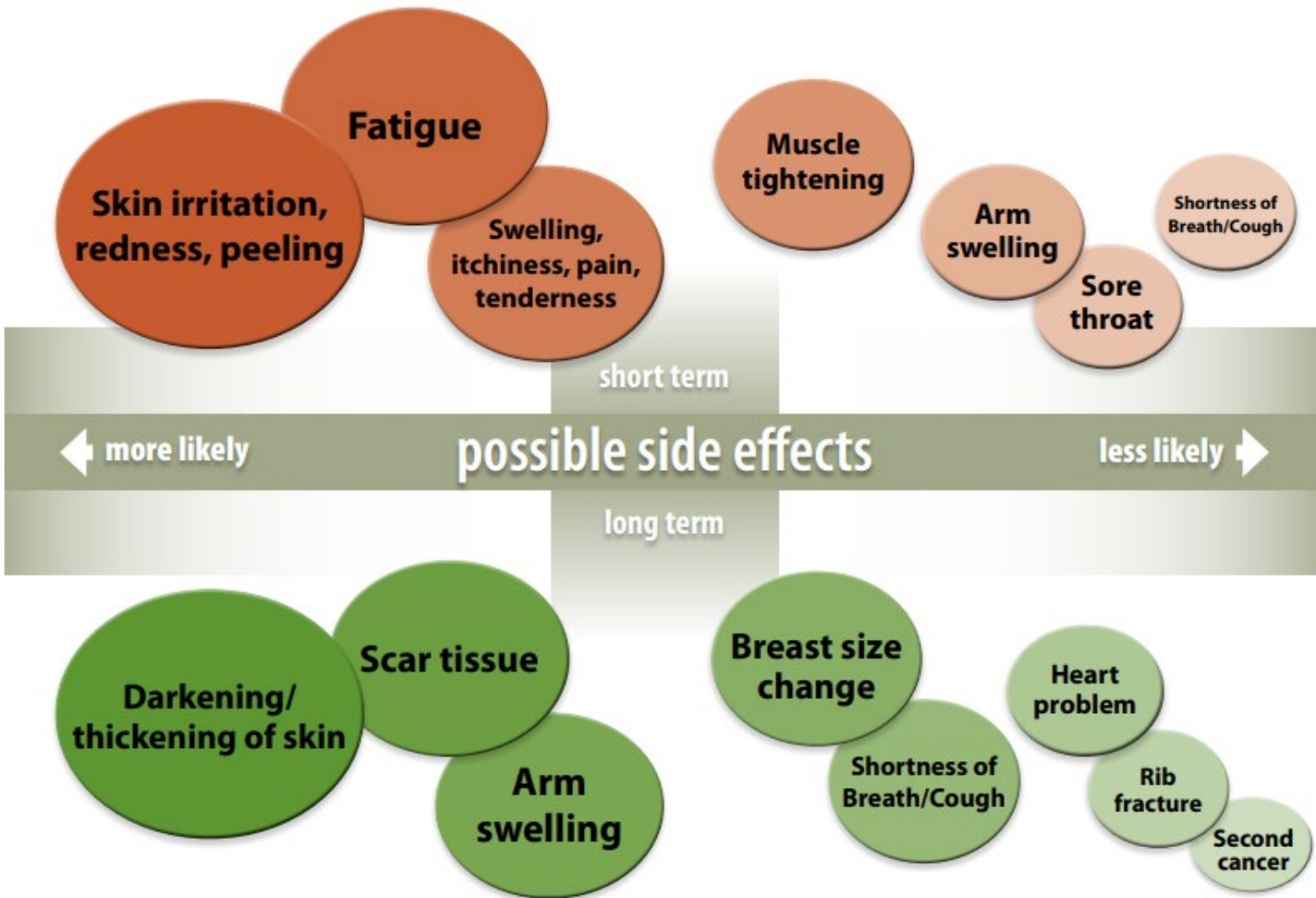


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Does RT make me sick from the side effects?

Side Effects

- All cancer treatments have some side effects. We map out possible effects from RT.
- Your treatment team will work to minimize side effects




*Larger/darker bubbles show higher likelihood of occurrence. Smaller/lighter bubbles show lesser likelihood of occurrence. This list doesn't represent all of the possible side effects. Please talk to your doctors about your specific diagnosis.

RTAnswers.org

SELECT A CANCER TYPE 

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FIND A RADIATION ONCOLOGIST 

City

--- Choose A State --- 

--- Choose A Specialty --- 

ADVANCED SEARCH

SEARCH



Introduction to Radiation Therapy

This 26-minute video gives you a general overview of how radiation therapy is used to treat cancer. Topics covered include what is radiation therapy, types of radiation therapy treatments, the radiation therapy treatment team, pre-treatment planning, what to expect, possible side effects, safety and caring for yourself. Additionally, you will hear from patients about their experiences.



Una introducción a la radioterapia de haz externo

Este video de 26 minutos le brinda una descripción general de cómo se usa la radioterapia para tratar el cáncer. Los temas cubiertos incluyen qué es la radioterapia, tipos de tratamientos de radioterapia, el equipo de tratamiento de radioterapia, planificación previa al tratamiento, qué esperar, posibles efectos secundarios, seguridad y cuidado personal. Además, escuchará a los pacientes contar sus experiencias. [Ver los capítulos individuales en español.](#)

Radioterapia para El Cáncer de Mama



El cáncer de mama es el tipo de cáncer más común en las mujeres estadounidenses (según la Sociedad Americana de Cáncer, American Cancer Society). Este año, 232,340 mujeres y 2,240 hombres serán diagnosticados con cáncer de mama invasivo, y otras 64,640 mujeres serán diagnosticadas con cáncer de mama no invasivo (o in situ). En la mayoría de los casos, el cáncer de mama puede curarse. Alrededor del 80 por ciento de los pacientes con cáncer de mama viven al menos 10 años después del diagnóstico.

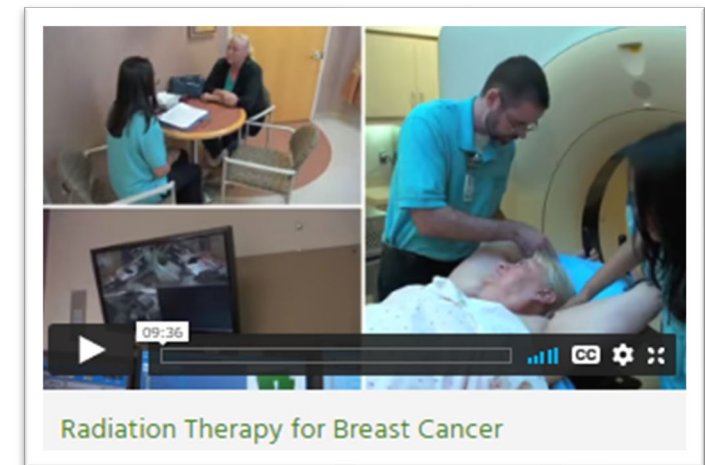
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TARGETING CANCER CARE

Radiation Therapy for Breast Cancer



Breast cancer is the most common type of cancer in American women, according to the American Cancer Society. This year, 268,600 women and 2,670 men will learn they have breast cancer. Another 62,930 women will learn they have noninvasive (also called in situ) breast cancer. Breast cancer can often be cured. About 80 percent of all patients with breast cancer live at least 10 years after their diagnosis.

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ASTRO Ask a Radiation Oncologist: Radiation Therapy for Gastrointestinal (GI) Cancers **RTAnswers**

RT Answers YouTube Live Event: May 24, 6 pm ET/3 pm PT

 Jolanta Liu, MD Winship Cancer Institute Duke University (Member)	 Alexandra Diaz, MD, MS The James Cancer Hospital The Ohio State University	 C Edna Madu, MD Northwell Health	 Terrence Liu, MD, MS Mount Sinai
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For more information, visit RTAnswers.org

Ask a Radiation Oncologist: Radiation Therapy for...

ASTRO Ask a Radiation Oncologist: Radiation Therapy for Brain/Spine Cancers **RTAnswers**

RT Answers Facebook Live Event: March 23, 6 pm ET/3 pm PT

 Andrea Aronow, MD, PhD Ohio State University Cancer Center (Moderator)	 Lisa M. Hillman, MD Washington State Cancer Care Alliance	 Abigail Stockham, MD Mayo Clinic	 Debra Nana-Yeboah, MD MD Anderson Cancer Center
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Ask a Radiation Oncologist: Radiation Therapy for...

ASTRO Ask a Radiation Oncologist: Radiation Therapy for Cervical Cancers **RTAnswers**

RT Answers Facebook Live Event: January 28, 7:30 pm ET/4:30 pm PT

 Jolanta Liu, MD Oregon Health & Science University (Moderator)	 Ann Kluge, MD, PhD MD Anderson Cancer Center	 Matti Vackarivirta, MD Lappeenranta University Medical Center	 Joann Mayhew, MD UC San Diego Health
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Ask A Radiation Oncologist: Radiation Therapy for...

Jean Larkin - Breast Cancer Survivor

When my doctor told me I had cancer, I was shocked and terrified to the point of paralysis. I was only 66 at the time, and up to that point, I had lived a healthy life. My husband and I were enjoying an active lifestyle in retirement, working out, traveling, and watching our grandkids grow up.

And then, out of the blue, a routine mammogram revealed that I had breast cancer—putting all that at risk. I hadn't even experienced any symptoms. And to make the emotional impact even harder, my best friend was battling cancer at that time...a battle she lost, sadly.

Hearing the word *cancer* in the same sentence with my own name was just shocking. Honestly, I was numb with a strong fear of the unknown while I also tried to stay positive.



Breast Cancer

Cassie Fedyshyn: Breast Cancer

Year Diagnosed: 2016 | Hometown: Auburn, New York

Theresa Keresztes: Breast Cancer

Year Diagnosed: 2007 | Hometown: Wellesley, Massachusetts

Jean Larkin: Breast Cancer

Year Diagnosed: 2016 | Hometown: Warwick, Rhode Island

Margaret Werts: Breast Cancer

Year Diagnosed: 2012 | Hometown: Pittsburgh

More Stories

Patients and caregivers have shared stories of their experience with cancer in order to help other. Read the stories below or [share your story](#).

Bladder Cancer

Breast Cancer

Caregiver

Colon Cancer

Head and Neck Cancer

Lung Cancer

Pancreatic Cancer

Prostate Cancer

Sarcoma

Skin Cancer



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Thank you.



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