RADIATION THERAPY AT UWMC’s CANCER CENTER

UW Medicine, in partnership with the SEATTLE CANCER CARE ALLIANCE, provides the highest quality, comprehensive cancer care to patients with all types of cancer, regardless of diagnosis: rare or common, simple or complex.

Patients may receive radiation therapy at the UW Medical Center Cancer Center or the UW Medicine Gamma Knife Center at Harborview Medical Center. Radiation services are also managed by SCCA at Northwest Hospital & Medical Center and on the SCCA main campus on Eastlake. All radiation treatment sites are staffed by UW Medicine faculty physicians.

At the UWMC Cancer Center, we provide not only comprehensive radiation treatment but also evaluation, consultation and follow-up for patients with a wide range of cancers and non-malignant conditions. Our physicians are widely recognized by their professional peers as the experts in their chosen specialty. Our patients see physicians who practice at the leading edge of available technology and are familiar with all facets of the most current radiation treatment options.

Every patient receives warm, personalized service coordination and assistance from a cohesive multidisciplinary team. This team includes experts in radiation oncology, medical physics, dosimetry, radiation therapy, nursing and medical oncology.

Services:

Clinical Services include:
- Consultation
- Radiation specific symptom management
- Nutrition counseling
- Social Services
- Pain Management
- Wound Care

Radiation Therapy Services include:
- Stereotactic Body Radiation treatment (SBRT)
- Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)
- Image Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT)
- Fast Neutron Therapy
- Total Body Irradiation (TBI)
- Low dose rate brachytherapy (LDR)
- Intra Operative Radiation Therapy (IORT)
In addition to serving adults with cancer, the Cancer Center provides the only radiation therapy service for pediatric patients in the Puget Sound region.

**Types of cancer treated**

- Brain tumors
- Breast cancer
- Gastrointestinal malignancies
- Genitourinary malignancies
- Gynecological malignancies
- Head and neck cancer
- Lung cancer
- Lymphomas
- Melanoma
- Merkle cell carcinoma
- Metastatic diseases, all sites
- Multiple myeloma
- Pancreatic cancer
- Prostate cancer
- Renal cell carcinoma
- Salivary gland tumors
- Sarcomas
- Skin cancer
- Occasional non-malignant diagnoses, such as multiple sclerosis, keloids, heterotopic ossification

**Treatment innovations**

- The Cancer Center operates one of very few clinically active neutron-producing cyclotrons. Fast neutron treatment is considered the treatment of choice for salivary gland tumors and other radiation-resistant tumors.
- UWMC served as one of the initial sites of development for intensity-modulated radiation therapy. This therapy is now considered a staple in the oncology community.
- A stereotactic body radiation treatment program for lung, spine, liver and other tumor sites is now available. With this treatment, healthcare professionals compensate for tumor motion, avoiding damage to sensitive tissue and organs near the tumor, while increasing the radiation dose to the tumor itself increasing the probability of better outcomes for patients.

**2011 Statistics**

- The Cancer Center treated 15,551 patients in 2011.
- The Cancer Center treatment error rate is 0.026 percent. The national treatment error rate is 3 to 10 percent.
- Patient satisfaction surveys show greater than 93 percent rate the overall quality of care as good or excellent.
- More than 96 percent of patients treated would recommend the Cancer Center.