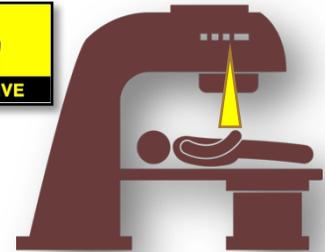


AMERICAN CANCER HOSPITAL – NIGERIA

Ikeduru Hospital Complex, Owerri-Okigwe Road, Iho, Ikeduru, Imo State, Nigeria.

RADIATION THERAPY

We are happy to let you know that we have established a desperately needed Radiation Therapy facility in Imo State. Radiation therapy uses high energy beams to kill cancer cells. The radiation beams come from a powerful radio-active source which are aimed at the cancer. The machine can rotate and change positions so the beams can enter the body from any angle. By changing the angle of the beams, the radiation oncologist is able to match the shape of your tumor and spare as many healthy cells as possible. The goal of radiation therapy is to kill the cancer cells while limiting the damage to healthy normal cells around the tumor. Most healthy cells that are damaged by radiation quickly repair themselves.



Radiation therapy is used in a number of situations:

- Alone, as the only treatment
- Before surgery to shrink the tumor
- During surgery to protect the area around the tumor
- After surgery to destroy any remaining cancer cells
- With chemotherapy, hormone therapy or target therapy which makes the cancer cells more sensitive to radiation treatment
- After chemotherapy, hormone therapy or target therapy to kill remaining cancer cells
- As 'Booster Doses' to maximise effective treatment
- To control symptoms such as pain or bleeding.

The treatment usually is carried out 5 days a week for 3-8 weeks depending on the stage, size, shape and position of the tumor. After the prescribed radiation therapy sessions, additional sessions may be given as 'boost'. This boost increases the radiation given to the area of the original tumor (the area most at risk for recurrence).

CAN CANCER BE CURED?

Yes, today we can be bold to state that cancer can be cured IF it is detected early and treated properly. The cancers with the highest 5-year relative survival rates include melanoma, Hodgkin lymphoma, breast, prostate, testicular, cervical, and thyroid cancer. It is important to listen to your body. Most cancers give out tell-tale signs and if the cancer is caught at an early stage, prognosis is very good.

TREATING CANCER:

According to recent WHO statistics, 4 out of 5 cancer patients in Nigeria unfortunately die. Our vision is to establish one of the finest cancer hospitals in Africa. Today cancer is treated from many angles. Gone are the days when cancer would be treated by Radiation, Chemotherapy and Surgery. Today we have over a dozen ways of attacking this deadly enemy, including hormone and target therapy.

We are happy to answer any questions you may have before, during, and after your treatment. We also thank you for choosing American Cancer Hospital for your care; it is a responsibility we take seriously.

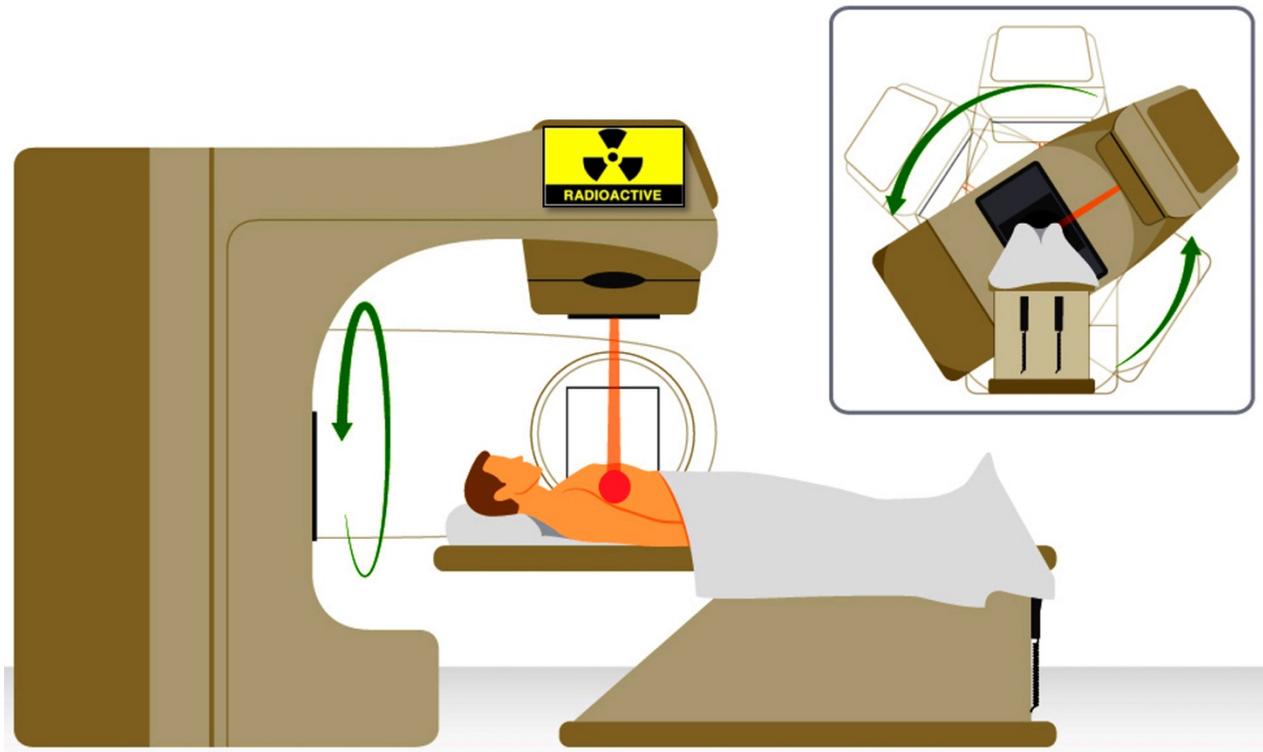
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CANCER IS CURABLE



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Radiation therapy involves a team of healthcare professionals:

A Radiation oncologist is a medical doctor who specializes in treating cancer with radiation therapy. They examine you physically and using various imaging modalities like X-Rays, CT and MRI scans, determine the exact location of your cancer and the treatment area. They then prescribe your radiation dose and develop a treatment plan to avoid critical organs and oversee and monitor your treatments. They are also part of a Multi-disciplinary Team (MDT) which includes Medical Oncologists, Surgical Oncologists and a host of other persons including counsellors and dieticians involved in the overall care of the patient. To have maximum effect on the cancer, very often radiation is carried out together with other modes of treatment including chemotherapy and or surgery.

Medical physicist and Radiation Safety Officer make sure the radiation therapy equipment and the high energy beam are properly calibrated and all the associated systems are working safely and properly.

A Dosimetrist is a medical physicist who is trained in the use of a special software called 'Treatment Planning System' (TPS). Using a CT-Simulator, they develop the treatment plan prescribed by the Radiation Oncologist and calculates the dose of each radiation beam as the machine rotates around your body.

A Radiation therapist operates the radiation therapy machine. They accurately position you daily on the treatment couch and ensure that you receive your daily treatment.

A Radiation oncology nurse coordinates all activities and takes care of you while you are receiving radiation therapy.

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