

What To Expect During Your Course of Treatment at SRO

Introduction to Radiation Oncology

Welcome to Syracuse Radiation Oncology. We look forward to informing you about all the types of radiation therapy that we offer. These therapies include: 3D Conformal Radiation Therapy, Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT), Image Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT) and Brachytherapy.

In general, all these forms of treatment use high energy radiation to kill cancer cells. External radiation may come from a machine outside the body, as is the case with 3D, IMRT and IGRT. Internal radiation comes from radioactive materials implanted inside the body into the cancerous area and is called brachytherapy. You and your radiation oncologist will decide which form of therapy is best for you. Some patients receive a combination of internal and external radiation therapy. The external beam radiation is delivered at Syracuse Radiation Oncology utilizing a Varian Image Guided Linear Accelerator. The radioactive materials for brachytherapy are implanted at one of the hospitals in the Syracuse area. The radioactive material used for brachytherapy is either Iodine or Palladium.

Our office staff is here to help you with your decision making process. Please feel free to ask any questions you have.

Consultation

DR. NEIL MARIADOS is the board certified radiation oncologist you will be meeting at your consultation. This appointment will take about one hour. He and his nurse will go over all of your treatment options and answer your questions. You may be scheduled for additional diagnostic tests such as a CT scan or a bone scan. These tests can aid your physician with designing the best treatment plan for you. We understand that deciding on a course of treatment is difficult. You may require more than one visit to make this decision. We will communicate with both your surgeon and your primary care physician regarding your visit with us.

The Team

Dr. Neil Mariados is a *Radiation Oncologist*; a physician who has had specialized training in using radiation to treat disease. Dr. Mariados is also fellowship trained in Stereotactic Radiosurgery and Brachytherapy. He prescribes the type and amount of radiation that best suits each patient's needs. Dr. Mariados works closely with other doctors and also heads a highly specialized health care team. This team includes a *Radiation Physicist*, who participates in the planning process and ensures that the treatment machines deliver the appropriate dose of radiation; a *Medical Dosimetrist* who plans the treatment with the oncologist and the physicist; a *Radiation Therapy Nurse* who provides nursing care and helps educate patients about their treatment and how to manage any side effects; and *Radiation Therapists* who position patients for treatment and operate the equipment that delivers your prescribed treatment. The team also includes *Administrative Assistants* who are available for any related medical needs.

