

Patient Education - Simulation

Your first radiation therapy session is called a Simulation and does not involve an actual treatment. This simulation is used to plan your radiation therapy treatments by simulating the exact position you will be in during your treatments. The session usually takes 45 minutes to 1 hour to complete.

During the Simulation

Positioning

A Radiation Therapist will put you in a comfortable position that will keep you steady. You will be in this position for all of your treatments. The Therapist will often make a custom fit device to help hold you in that position.

Scan

A computerized tomography (CT) scan will be taken to calculate your radiation plan. A Radiation Oncologist will review your setup and CT scan.

Marks

Marks will be placed on your skin to ensure that the radiation is aimed correctly. We often make a small permanent tattoo so it will not wash off.

If you prefer a pen mark instead, let your therapist know.

Be careful not to wash off the marks when showering by not rubbing them with soap.

Photographs

We take photos of your position at the end to make sure you set up correctly on your first day.

After the Simulation

Planning

Your Radiation Oncologist will design a plan to target the area to be treated and protect the surrounding healthy tissues.

Treatment

Usually begins 7 to 10 day business days after the simulation. A Therapist will call you 2 days prior to the start of treatment.

Patient Education



Scheduling

If you have not been contacted and it has been over 10 business days, please call 1-844-632-2278. Our standard business hours are from 8am to 5:00 pm. If you have specific time requests, please let your simulation therapist know. We will do our best to accommodate your scheduling needs. Please be flexible by a minimum of 1-hour surrounding your treatment time due to unavoidable issues that could arise.

If you have questions or concerns about your treatment or treatment schedule, please contact your Radiation Oncologist, Therapist or Nurse by calling 1-844-632-2278.

Reviewed 10/2019