TYPES OF RADIATION THERAPY FOR PROSTATE CANCER



1



Includes various forms of radiotherapy that **targets cancer cells via high-energy beams**, such as **X-rays** or **protons**, by a machine from outside your body.

Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)

- Uses sophisticated computer planning to allow precise radiation treatments
- Aims multiple radiation beams to target the tumor from several angles, or uses a continuously sweeping arc
- Adjusts the intensity of the beams in pre-planned sequence to deliver a higher radiation dose to the cancer while protecting surrounding healthy tissue

Image Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT)

- Uses treatment machines that have built-in imaging systems
- Allows accurate alignment of the treatment beam to the target treatment area using pre-treatment images or fiducial markers
- Helps deliver the radiation with on-target accuracy, protecting normal tissue and decreasing odds of side effects

Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy (SBRT)

- Allows your prostate radiation therapy course to be condensed to just 5 treatment sessions, usually given every other day
- Advanced delivery technologies and radiation planning techniques are used to deliver higher doses per day in a safe and effective manner

EBRT is delivered in one of two formats:

Hypofractionated radiation therapy is a treatment technique where larger doses are delivered in fewer sessions (typically 1 to 5 week treatment duration). This shorter schedule is safe and effective, and many patients prefer it because it's more convenient and cost-effective.¹

Conventional radiation therapy is a treatment technique where **smaller doses are delivered in more sessions** (typically 6 to 8 week treatment duration).

These different radiation treatment schedules depend on the type of radiation being used and specific needs of each patient. It's important to discuss radiation treatment options with your doctor to determine what's right for you.

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2



A form of radiotherapy where the **radioactive** source is placed **inside your body**, directly in (or next to) the area requiring treatment.

Low Dose Rate (LDR)

- Radioactive seeds are placed in the prostate gland permanently
- Slow release of radiation over several months

High Dose Rate (HDR)

- Temporary insertion and withdrawal of a radioactive isotope
- Catheters are placed in the prostate gland just before radiation is delivered, allowing the radiation source to travel temporarily into the prostate gland
- Catheters are removed immediately after the radiation is delivered
- May involve multiple sessions

Brachytherapy combined with EBRT can be an option for men with a higher risk of the cancer spreading outside of the prostate and allows for more dose to the tumor within the prostate.

3



Proton Therapy

An **external beam radiation** of subatomic particles that mostly deposits dose deep in the body.

 Precisely targets your prostate tumor, while sparing surrounding healthy tissue from radiation exposure. All external radiation starts from outside the body and enters through the skin as it travels and deposits its dose to penetrate the target. Photons continue on and exit through the other side of the body, whereas protons can stop within the target.