

ACCESS TO CANCER RESOURCES

Rush is committed to helping patients and their families cope with the psychological, emotional and spiritual effects of cancer.

- In partnership with the American Cancer Society, Rush offers a patient navigator to assess individual patient needs and provide information about available treatments, community services and programs.
- Through the Cancer Integrative Medicine Program, patients have access to therapies that complement their medical treatments, such as acupuncture, biofeedback, herbal counseling, massage and yoga.
- A dietitian is available to discuss nutrition.
- A psychosocial oncologist can offer insights on dealing with the emotional and psychological effects of a cancer diagnosis.

ADVANCING MEDICINE THROUGH RESEARCH

As an academic medical center, Rush is dedicated to improving patient care through research and education. Physicians at Rush are also faculty members of Rush University as well as active researchers focused on bringing the latest advances in health care directly to their patients through clinical trials. For a current list of clinical trial opportunities, visit www.rush.edu/clinicaltrials.

QUALITY CARE

Rush is consistently ranked among the nation's top hospitals by *U.S. News & World Report*, and the cancer program has been awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award by the American College of Surgeons' Commission on Cancer. Rush has also been named among the top five academic medical centers in the country by the University HealthSystem Consortium in its annual quality and accountability performance ranking. In addition, Rush has twice earned Magnet status from the American Nurses Credentialing Center — the highest honor in nursing.

CONVENIENT LOCATION

Radiation oncology services are available in the Woman's Board Center for Radiation Therapy building on the Rush campus. Free parking in front of the building is available for radiation therapy patients during treatment visits.

The Rush campus is conveniently located just west of downtown Chicago and is easily accessible from I-290 off of Ashland Avenue or the Chicago Transit Authority's Blue line (Forest Park train at Illinois Medical District stop) or Pink line (Polk stop). To see a map and get directions, please visit www.rush.edu.

CONTACT US

To make an appointment or for more detailed information on radiation oncology services available at Rush, please call (312) 942-5751. Or visit www.rush.edu to find more information about programs and physicians at Rush, and for additional health information.

Radiation Oncology Program at Rush

The Woman's Board Center for Radiation Therapy
520 S. Paulina St.
Chicago, IL 60612



PLEASE NOTE: All physicians featured in this publication are on the medical staff of Rush University Medical Center. Some of the physicians are in private practice and, as independent practitioners, are not employees or agents of Rush University Medical Center.

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The Radiation Oncology Program at Rush

Applying disease-specific expertise, state-of-the-art technology and compassion to combat cancer

To schedule an appointment, call (312) 942-5751.



A COMPREHENSIVE, CARING APPROACH TO CANCER

At Rush University Medical Center, medical oncologists, surgeons and radiation oncologists collaborate with other specialists and highly trained nurses to provide compassionate, high-quality care for virtually every type of cancer. In fact, for many cancers, Rush offers comprehensive, multidisciplinary clinics where patients meet with all the specialists involved in their diagnosis and treatment during a single session and devise a well-defined treatment plan that meets their individual needs.

INDIVIDUALIZED TREATMENT

Radiation oncologists play integral roles in cancer care at Rush, using their expertise to deliver state-of-the-art radiation therapies in a thoughtfully designed and patient-friendly setting. Below is a list of ways radiation treatment is tailored to each patient:

- Since Rush has a wide array of radiation therapy options — from standard techniques to leading-edge therapies — patients receive the treatment that is best suited to treating their specific cancer.
- Patients are treated by a member of the radiation oncology team who specifically focuses on their type of cancer. This focus gives the doctors specialized knowledge of the nuances of treatment and how to most effectively use the technology available at Rush to achieve the best possible outcomes.
- The radiation oncology team works together to monitor each patient as a whole, including side effects or complications. They address patients' needs, sometimes beyond the scope of cancer treatment. When the unexpected is noticed, staff work to ensure that patients receive the proper care they need, whether it's extra fluids or a trip to the emergency room.
- Detailed skin care education helps patients minimize the side effects of their radiation treatment and maintain the highest quality of life possible, both during and after treatment.
- The radiation oncology team educates patients on issues specific to their cancer, such as oral health education for patients with head and neck cancers.
- The compassionate, caring staff work with patients to meet their scheduling needs and to make the entire treatment process as smooth as possible.

ADVANCED RADIATION THERAPIES

The radiation oncology program offers a full range of treatment options that can more accurately direct a high dose of radiation to the tumor with a lower risk of affecting surrounding tissues and organs. In addition to **brachytherapy** — where tiny radioactive seeds are implanted into the cancerous area — the program offers the latest and most advanced approaches in external beam radiation therapy, including the following:

- **Three-dimensional conformal radiation therapy** — a technique that helps doctors visualize the tumor with CT or MRI scans and then shapes multiple beams of radiation to fit the tumor's size and shape. It is used to treat many different types of cancer.
- **Intensity-modulated radiation therapy** — a treatment that uses 3-D CT images to determine the precise shape of the tumor and focuses high radiation doses on the tumor, better sparing healthy tissue. It is used to treat prostate and head and neck cancers.
- **Image-guided radiation therapy (IGRT)** — a state-of-the-art approach that repeatedly images the tumor during treatment and continuously adjusts the radiation beams so that a higher dose of radiation can be more precisely delivered to the tumor. Doctors at Rush deliver IGRT using the TomoTherapy Hi-Art System and Varian Trilogy system to treat prostate cancer, head and neck cancers, brain cancers, and sarcomas.

SPECIALIZED PROCEDURES

Radiation oncologists at Rush use specialized radiation therapy procedures to better tailor treatment to particular cancers, including the following:

- **Respiratory gating** — a technology to synchronize radiotherapy with a patient's breathing. The radiation beams are continuously turned on and off to deliver radiation during only the optimal point of the patient's respiration cycle. This better spares healthy tissue while treating lung, liver or breast cancers.
- **Stereotactic radiosurgery** — a highly specialized treatment that delivers a single, high dose of radiation to treat brain tumors, some head and neck tumors, and abnormal blood vessels in the brain. Beginning in spring 2010, it will be used for spinal tumors as well.

- **Total body irradiation** — a treatment that may be combined with stem cell or bone marrow transplant for cancers that are spread throughout the body, such as leukemias and lymphomas.
- **Total skin electron irradiation** — a complex treatment for select types of skin cancers, such as mycosis fungoides, that can deliver radiation to the entire skin surface while sparing internal organs.

EXPERT, SUBSPECIALTY CARE

Our highly specialized team of radiation oncologists are experts in applying advanced technology to combat specific types of cancer. This expertise is crucial for patients with rare as well as common cancers. For example, our breast cancer specialist is experienced in delivering prone breast irradiation, where the patient lies on her stomach during treatment. This position distances the radiation being delivered to the breast from the rest of the body, minimizing exposure to the patient's heart and lungs.

Members of the radiation oncology team at Rush are specialists in treating the following types of cancer:

- Anal cancer
- Bile duct cancer
- Bone and soft tissue tumors
- Brain cancer
- Breast cancer
- Esophageal cancer
- Gynecologic cancers
- Head and neck cancers
- Intestinal cancers
- Liver cancer
- Lung cancer
- Lymphomas
- Ocular cancers
- Pancreatic cancer
- Pediatric cancers
- Thoracic malignancies



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