



**THE UROLOGY CENTER
OF COLORADO**

IN FOCUS

Radiation Therapy Treatment for Prostate Cancer

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When considering radiation therapy for prostate cancer, our technology has never been better. Today, radiation oncologists combine sophisticated treatment planning in the form of intensity modulated radiation therapy (IMRT) with the precision targeting of image guided radiation therapy (IGRT). IMRT allows us to safely deliver higher radiation doses to the prostate while optimally sparing surrounding normal tissue - namely the bladder and rectum. This “dose escalation” has been reported in randomized trials to improve cancer control with minimal potential risk. Daily IGRT involves initial placement of three gold markers called fiducials into the prostate. An image is then obtained prior to each treatment utilizing a cone beam CT scan, which ensures a reproducible “target” throughout the treatment course. Generally, outcomes for patients electing to pursue radiation therapy as the primary treatment for their prostate cancer are comparable to surgery or radical prostatectomy.

Prostate cancer patients with intermediate or high-risk disease may receive androgen deprivation therapy (ADT), also referred to as hormone therapy, in addition to radiation therapy. ADT is not without potential risks that require monitoring. In response to the special needs of these patients, TUCC has launched a comprehensive ADT clinic for all patients receiving hormone therapy. In addition to routine follow-up appointments with their attending physician or Steve Bales, N.P., our primary caregiver at the ADT clinic, patients may benefit from consulting with a nutritionist or physical therapist to counter some of the potential metabolic or musculoskeletal side effects of ADT. This is just another opportunity for TUCC to provide patients with comprehensive, state-of-the-art care under one roof!

Visit www.tucc.com for more information on radiation treatment at TUCC.