

General Patient Information

www.stcharlescancer.org

Welcome to the St. Charles Cancer Center Radiation Oncology. The following guidelines were designed to make your radiation therapy treatment visits as pleasant and comfortable as possible.

Daily Treatments

Daily treatments are scheduled Monday through Friday, typically at the same time each day, usually between 8:15am and 3:30 pm. We will attempt to schedule your appointments at a convenient time for you, however (due to emergencies, machine maintenance, patient volume, etc.,), we may be required to change your appointment time. We will always try to give you as much advance notice as possible if we need to adjust your schedule.

Once your treatment schedule is set, there is no need to check in at the front desk. Please come directly back to the treatment area dressing rooms, get dressed for therapy and wait in the waiting area. Your radiation therapist will be aware of your arrival. If you are going to be late, please call your therapist at the number on your appointment card.

Treatment Area

Please do not enter the control room or treatment area until your radiation therapist notifies you it is time for your treatment to ensure patient privacy.

Parking

Handicapped parking and reserved spaces for Cancer Treatment Center patients are close to the circular driveway leading to the revolving front door of our building. Short-term parking spaces are just west of the Cancer Treatment Center. Wheelchairs may be requested from the front reception desk.

Weekly Visit with your Doctor

You will have a scheduled visit with your doctor weekly, but may request to see a doctor at any time. If you wear a gown or scrub pants for your treatment, please keep them on every time you see a doctor.

Social Services

Specially trained hospital social workers offer a wide range of services to patients and their families, including emotional support and counseling both during and after your treatments. Social workers can provide referrals to community resources and support services, arrangements for in-home care or alternative living situations, and referrals to financial assistance programs. For more information, please contact Social Services at 541-706-5864 or your nurse can help arrange an appointment.

Lab Tests

You may have a one-time CBC blood test, or other lab tests, as needed. Don't hesitate to ask to review the results.

Billing

We welcome billing inquiries to avoid misunderstandings.

For Hospital charges, please contact Patient Accounts at 541-706-2975. For Physician Professional charges, contact 541-516-3866.

Other Suggestions

- You may want to bring a sweater to wear while you are waiting to be treated. Airconditioning may be too cool for you while wearing a gown.
- If you take pain medication, always carry some with you. Please bring your medications in their original containers for your first visit with the doctor, and keep us updated with any medication changes.
- Observed holiday closures will be posted. However, we are always available via the hospital paging system as outlined below.
- On most days, appointments will occur as scheduled. Occasionally when we are extremely busy or have an emergency, we may not be able to stay on schedule. You may want to bring a book, music with headphones, or work on puzzles in our treatment waiting area. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience.
- A videotape or DVD about treatment procedures is available. Our library also has many books and videos that patients can check out free of charge.

Recommended Websites

- St. Charles Cancer Treatment Center <u>www.stcharlescancer.org</u>
- CancerNet <u>www.cancer.net</u>
- Caring4Cancer <u>www.caring4cancer.org</u>
- Lance Armstrong Foundation <u>www.livestrong.org</u>
- American Cancer Society <u>www.cancer.org</u>
- National Cancer Institute <u>www.cancer.gov</u>
- Oncolink <u>www.oncolink.com</u>
- Radiation Therapy Answers <u>www.rtanswers.org</u>

Contact Information and Cancer Treatment Center Hours

All of the doctors, nurses and radiation therapists may be reached at 541-706.5800 or 541-706-7733.

The Cancer Treatment Center is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 until 5:00pm.

For after-hours emergencies, please phone the main hospital at 541-382-4321 and have the on-call radiation oncologist paged. This will be Linyee Chang, MD; Russ Omizo, MD.; or Dhara MacDermed, MD.

Thank you!

Your Radiation Oncology Staff

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