

Radiation Oncology Radiosurgery

What should I expect when I get to the department?

After your frame has been placed, you will be brought to the department for a CT scan (Computerized Tomography) to start planning for your radiation treatment. After your scan, you will be taken by wheelchair to the front lobby. We will make you as comfortable as possible while you wait. You will wait in an area that's used for patients who are getting similar radiation treatment. For your safety, given that you have just taken sedating drugs and are wearing your frame, you may not leave the department.

You may have one support person with you while you wait for your treatment. A radiation oncology nurse or other healthcare provider will be on hand to help you while you wait for treatment. You will be given a call device. Please do not get up without help. You may be unsteady on your feet once the frame is in place.

We suggest that you eat something light before your treatment. We have coffee, tea, water and ice on hand. We also have saltine crackers. We will give you a hospital menu so that you may order something to eat. If your health plan does not cover the cost of the meal, you will get a bill.

What should I bring with me to my appointment?

- **Prescribed medications.** Bring all of your prescription and over-the-counter medications and supplements with you. The nurses will help remind you when it is time to take your medications. If

you take pain or anti-anxiety medication, please take it one hour before your treatment.

- **Items to keep you comfortable and entertained.** You may wait for many hours for your treatment. So, it is a good idea to bring a small travel pillow, smartphone, computer, reading device, music player with headphones, books, magazines, small games or a deck of cards to help you pass the time. WIFI is available.
- **Food.** We suggest a light meal before your treatment. If you'd like, your support person can bring you food from our cafeteria rather than ordering off of the hospital menu. You can also bring food from home. We do not have a refrigerator or microwave for patients to use.

What can I expect after my treatment is finished?

Your frame will be removed in the treatment room. You may have some swelling and bruising at the pin sites. You can use cold packs to reduce the swelling at home.

You will be seen by the radiation oncologist before you go home. You may return to normal activities. However, you may be tired from the long day.

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