

Pulsed Reduced Dose Rate Radiotherapy- (PRDR)

This handout tells you what PRDR is and what will happen during treatment. When reading this handout, mark any area you do not understand. Make a list of questions you may have. Your therapist or doctor can discuss those with you.

What is PRDR?

PRDR is a way of giving small pulses of radiation at a reduced dose rate over a longer period of time. Since the radiation is given rapidly, daily treatments require only minutes to deliver. This method may be used on areas that were treated before.

What happens during a treatment visit?

Arrive to the treatment area at your scheduled time. Be sure to check in with the staff when you arrive.

- A therapist will call you into the room to explain the process in detail.
- You may need to remove some clothing or personal items. It will depend on the site being treated.
- We will position you on the treatment table. The therapist(s) may need to move you to get the correct position.
- We will take x-rays (pictures) to check your position. Your doctor approves the

x-rays, and then treatment begins.

Treatment lasts about 45-60 minutes depending on the area treated.

- You will hear buzzing noises during treatment. This is from the machine. You will hear this until the prescribed dose of radiation has been delivered.
- After treatment, the therapist(s) will come in the room and help you off the table.
- The therapist(s) can see and hear you at all times during your treatment. If you need anything, wave your hand or call out. They will stop the machine and help you right away.
- Side effects of treatment depend on what part of the body is being treated. Your doctor will discuss these with you.
- For questions or problems once you are home, call the Radiation Oncology Clinic at **608-263-8500** or the treatment unit directly. They will provide you with the treatment unit phone number. If the clinic is closed, call the main clinic number at **608-263-8500**. The hospital paging operator will answer. Ask to speak to the Radiation Oncology doctor on call. Give your name and phone number with area code. The doctor will call you back.