

## **ViewRay MRIdian Treatment Machine**

### **What is ViewRay MRIdian?**

The MRIdian Linac (ViewRay, Inc) is a radiation treatment machine. An MRI scanner shows us the inside of your body. It uses a magnet to give detailed pictures of your soft tissue. This machine allows us to take pictures during your entire treatment. This helps us to give radiation to just the tumor area. Your healthy tissue can then stay healthy.

### **Preparing for Your Treatment**

You will get a phone call from the radiation therapists. They will schedule your first radiation treatment. You will be given special instructions related to your treatment. As an example, you may be asked to keep your bladder full for your treatment. Or you may be asked to empty your bladder before treatment.

Your treatment will be on a machine that is also an MRI scanner. You may wear your own clothing during treatment. Your clothing must not have metal on it. We can give you a hospital gown or scrub pants to change into as well. In the treatment room, the therapists will remind you to check your pockets. You should not have any metal on you, including glasses, hearing aids, cell phones, etc.

### **Positioning for Your Treatment**

The radiation therapists will put you into the best position for treatment. They line up marks that have been put on your skin. It is best to not soak in a tub or swim to help maintain these marks. If you feel it is

important that you can swim or take tub baths, let the therapist know. Once you are set up for treatment, you will be given headphones and an alert cord. A foam pad called a “coil” will be placed under and over your body. The coil helps make clear MRI pictures. Once you are in position and the top coil is placed, we will send you into the scanner.

The first step for a radiation treatment is taking MRI pictures. These pictures will be taken every day before your treatment. This helps the therapists see the area that we need to treat. By using the pictures, small changes are made to your position. The radiation beams aim at the exact spot. The scan can take 30 seconds to 2 minutes. After the first scan, the therapists take a few minutes to look it over and line up the treatment area. Your doctor may also be looking at the scan at that time.

### **During the Treatment**

MRI pictures are taken during the whole the treatment. This allows the therapists to watch for movement or changes. Then adjustments can be made.

ViewRay is used to treat different areas of your body. You will be told what you need to do to help ViewRay target your specific tumor and its location. Examples of this include breathing a certain way during the procedure or having a full or empty bladder. Your radiation therapist will let you know what you will need to do.

Your health care team may have given you this information as part of your care. If so, please use it and call if you have any questions. If this information was not given to you as part of your care, please check with your doctor. This is not medical advice. This is not to be used for diagnosis or treatment of any medical condition. Because each person's health needs are different, you should talk with your doctor or others on your health care team when using this information. If you have an emergency, please call 911. Copyright ©8/2019 University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority. All rights reserved. Produced by the Department of Nursing. HF#8100.