

**CESIUM IMPLANT PROCEDURES
FOR RADIATION ONCOLOGY NURSES**

Policy:

The department will provide nursing staff with guidelines regarding their general duties for preparing for implant procedures. All staff will maintain strict procedures for providing a systematic approach to implants and provide safety according to department standards.

Procedures:

1. Scheduling Cesium Implants
 - a. Before the patient received too many external treatments, ask the physician for preferred date(s) of surgical implant(s).
 - b. Usually the first Cesium application is done at 2000 rads with the second done at the discretion of the physician, usually the following week.
 - c. Schedule surgical O.R. procedure(s) at the time the physician gives you the date.
 - d. Obtain the second implant O.R. date when scheduling the first one.
 - e. Alert 9W that patient is scheduled for implants.
 - f. The nurse will be responsible for the scheduling of these procedures with O.R.
 - g. Keep records of the dates and patients' names on department calendars.

2. If the patient for implant is an outpatient, you must get:
 - a. Direct admit forms
 - b. Admit orders and pre-op Cesium orders
 - c. Progress notes (only if requested by doctor)
 - d. X-ray Slip
 - e. Consent form for anesthesia and surgery
 - f. Cesium warning tag for bed (yellow tag)
 - g. Surgical implant forms for Radiation Oncology chart

3. Before Patient's Admission
 - a. The doctor must fill in the necessary forms and sign 2-3 days before the patients' admission.
 - b. Get signature on the consent form and put the date of survey after the description on of the procedure to be done.
 - c. Give the patient a pink appointment card with the time and date to be in admitting—usually before 1:00PM on the day of admission.

4. When all of this has been done the following data must be taken to Admitting 2-3 days before the patient is to be admitted:
 - a. Admission slip

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- b. Admission orders
 - c. Progress notes, if any
 - d. Consent form

5. Information that stays in the department in the patient's chart until day of implant:
 - a. X-ray slip
 - b. Cesium warning tag
 - c. Surgical implant forms

6. Obtain following instruments needed for Cesium implants and take in big bag to O.R.:
 - a. Tandem-2 different angles
 - b. Ovoids-2 regular
 - c. Mini-ovoids-1
 - d. Plastic tubing (Source carrier for tandems)
 - e. Dummy sources
 - f. X-ray request-AP and lateral pelvis with magnification ring.
 - g. X-ray request should also contain patient's name, age, diagnosis, and hospital number.
 - h. Place dummy sources in tandem before the patient goes to the X-ray department.
 - i. Dummy seeds for cervical os (Metallic marker seeds)
 - j. Needle and stylet for dummy seeds
 - k. Lucite caps for ovoid
 - l. Allen wrench

7. Instruments that Surgery should provide:
 - a. Foley catheter with 30 cc balloon to be inserted in rectum.
 - b. Leg drapes or two plain sheets, 4 towels, towel clips.
 - c. Packing- 2 inch iodoform packing-2 bottles
 - d. Vaginal refractors (Thompson refractors).
 - e. 30 cc syringe and 30 cc of Hypaque,
 - f. Sterile scissors
 - g. Metal ruler, 10-15 cm.
 - h. Cervix dilators
 - i. Gloves

8. See Nursing Policy & Procedures Manual for unit nurses responsibilities for detailed information concerning Cesium implants

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