

TREATMENT PLANNING

Policy:

The department will provide staff with general guidelines regarding treatment planning procedures and responsibilities.

Procedure:

1. **Prescribed Dose**
Like any other treatment or medication, Radiation has to be prescribed by a physician. The Radiation Oncologist prescribes the radiation dosages *in terms* of a TOTAL DOSE and FRACTIONATION, which is the rate at which the total dose will be delivered.
2. **Calculations**
The results of a treatment plan or calculation is the numerical parameters which the Therapist uses to position and set the treatment machine parameters to deliver the prescribed dose. Calculations are dose calculated by the dosimetrist or physicist; dosimetrist's calculations are always checked by the physicist.
3. **Treatment planning**
Treatment planning is the process using all the technical procedures (simulations, contouring, etc.) that gives us the patient contour and measurements needed to decide appropriate dose calculations and treatment procedure(s) to be done. The information from these procedures can also determine the use of accessories and treatment devices to be made.
4. **Contours**
The end result of Contour procedures is a tracing of a patient's surface contour. This tracing is prepared and given to the physics team to initiate the computer treatment planning. External contours can also be obtained from the CT images and be used for planning

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