#### LEADING THE WAY IN VENTURA COUNTY SINCE 1979

# Caring For Yourself During Radiation Therapy

Get plenty of rest during treatment, eat a balanced diet, and drink plenty of fluids.

Tell your doctor about any medications or vitamins you are taking to make sure they are safe to use during radiation therapy.

Treat the skin exposed to radiation with care. Clean the area with warm water and mild soap, and use lotions or ointments only

after checking with your doctor or nurse. Keep this area out of the sun and avoid applying hot or cold packs. Aquaphor Healing Ointment and Udderly Smooth Cream are helpful in soothing dry, irritated skin.

You and your family should ask the doctor if it's safe for you to drive.

# Frequently Asked Questions

### 1) How can I tell that the radiation is working?

Follow-up scans and your recovery will give you feedback regarding your progress.

### 2) Will it hurt?

No. Radiation treatments are painless.

### 3) How many treatments will I have?

This varies by individual. Ask your doctor at your first meeting.

### 4) Will I have headaches?

Sometimes radiation treatment can cause headaches. If you experience a headache or a feeling of pressure, report your symptoms to your radiation oncologist. You may be prescribed medications to help control pain.

### 5) Will I lose my hair?

There will be hair loss in the area targeted by the radiation. Your nurse and doctor will explain which areas will be affected by your radiation plan, and they will give you skin care instructions.

1700 North Rose Avenue, Suite 120, Oxnard 
805-988-2657
5301 Mission Oaks Blvd., Suite A, Camarillo 
805-484-1919

VENTURA COUNTY

RADIATION

**UNCOLOGY** MEDICAL GROUP, INC.

www.rocvc.com

#### HELPFUL RESOURCES

Radiation Oncology Centers of Ventura County www.rocvc.com

Radiation Treatment Answers www.rtanswers.org

American Brain Tumor Association www.abta.org

National Brain Tumor Society www.braintumor.org

Brain Tumor Foundation www.braintumor foundation.org





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Timothy A. O'Connor, M.D.

Dr. O'Connor is Chairman of the Cancer Program at St. John's Regional Medical Center and has been named one of the "Best Doctors in America: Pacific Region". A specialist in Image-Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT), Dr. O'Connor is committed to advanced technological treatment and giving compassionate care.



Henry Z. Montes, M.D.

A Ventura County native, Dr. Montes is fluent in Spanish and the recipient of many honors and awards, including the "Celebration of Excellence Award" from The Wellness Community – Valley/Ventura. Dr. Montes provides high-level care to cancer patients and specializes in the most advanced treatments for prostate, breast and skin cancer.