Exceptional care
When your patients require radiation therapy, they deserve the very best care available to them. The Department of Radiation Oncology provides exceptional care locally, regionally and nationally.

The Department of Radiation Oncology at the University of Rochester Medical Center offers care that places us at the forefront of our field, while giving our patients the utmost confidence in the care that they receive.

- We are national leaders in stereotactic radiosurgery and stereotactic body radiation.
- We provide many treatments and technologies that are not available anywhere else in Upstate NY.
- We perform basic, translational and clinical research in cancer and radiation biology, helping ensure that your patients receive the most advanced treatments.
- We are accredited by the American College of Radiology.
- We have a stringent QA process and have regular audits by the Radiological Physics Center, JCAHO and New York Department of Health.
- Our Press Ganey patient satisfaction scores consistently rank high nationally.

Regardless of these achievements, we continue to work diligently to provide even higher levels of care and responsiveness to the needs and concerns of you and your patients.

Physician Suggestion Line

Our goal is to exceed your expectations, every day. If you have any concerns or questions, please call us immediately so we can help.

Call our Physician Suggestion Line at (585) 275-0540.
Highly advanced technology can only fulfill its potential within the framework of a comprehensive approach to patient care.

Our radiation oncologists work within multidisciplinary teams to care for your patients at the Wilmot Cancer Center. Patient cases are regularly reviewed and recommendations are provided by a multidisciplinary, disease-specific team of experts in the specialties of medical, surgical and radiation oncology, with additional input from ancillary specialties such as imaging and radiologic sciences and pathology.

A better approach to patient care.

This approach to care is not only linked to better outcomes, but to a more seamless patient experience. Our goal is not only to cure your patients, but to ensure that they are exceptionally pleased with how they were treated at every step in the process.

Your patients can also benefit from the same responsiveness that we extend to referring physicians. If your patients ever have any concerns or questions, they can get immediate assistance by calling our Patient Suggestion Line at (585) 275-4958.
Conditions we treat

The Department of Radiation Oncology provides treatment for an extensive variety of cancers:

- Breast cancer
- Prostate cancer, bladder cancer, and other genitourinary cancers
- Lung cancer and other thoracic malignancies
- Head and Neck tumors including thyroid cancer, tumors of the eye, ear, and upper aerodigestive tract
- Brain and spine tumors
- Hodgkin's and non-Hodgkin's lymphomas, myelomas, and leukemias
- Gastrointestinal cancers including esophagus, stomach, colorectal, and anal cancer
- Cancer of the liver, bile duct, gall bladder, and pancreas
- Gynecologic cancers including cervical, uterine, vaginal, and vulvar cancer
- Pediatric cancers, all solid and hematologic
- Metastatic cancers to bone, lung, brain, liver, and other soft tissue
- Soft tissue and bone sarcoma, and skin cancer
- Retreatment of recurrent cancers
- Benign tumors including menigioma, acoustic neuroma, pituitary adenoma, trigeminal neuralgia, and others
- Benign conditions including arterio-venous malformation, heterotopic bone formation, keloids, graves ophthalmopathy, and aggressive fibromatosis
Treatments we provide

Our department provides the widest range of radiation oncology treatments in the region. In many cases, we are also performing research that is helping us to make these treatments even more effective.

**STEREOTACTIC RADIOSURGERY** uses a precise, single fraction of high-dose radiation to treat brain and spinal lesions. URMC has the greatest experience in the region in stereotactic radiosurgery and is considered a national leader in this technology.

**STEREOTACTIC BODY RADIATION** is for tumors or oligometastasis within the body such as the lung or liver. Treatments are completed over the course of about a week. URMC leads the Upstate region in stereotactic body radiation.

**HELICAL TOMOTHERAPY** delivers sculpted and precisely directed radiation to tumors, helping avoid exposure of healthy tissue to radiation. It is ideal for radiation dose-painting, head and neck tumors, radiation retreatment, and treatment of oligometastasis of cancers.

**BRACHYTHERAPY** uses radioactive seeds that are implanted permanently or temporarily, either in or near the tumor, to kill cancer cells. It is used for prostate cancer, gynecological cancers, breast cancer, and occasionally for sarcomas.

**THERASPHHERES** are a form of internal radiation. The thersphere beads are infused in the liver during a minimally invasive procedure to treat liver cancer.

**THREE-DIMENSIONAL CONFORMAL RADIATION THERAPY (3D CRT)** conforms the radiation beam to the size and shape of a tumor for exceptional precision. This process, used for all disease sites, directs more radiation at the tumor while minimizing exposure of normal cells.

**INTENSITY-MODULATED RADIATION THERAPY (IMRT)** is an advanced form of 3D CRT. IMRT allows us to vary the intensity of individual radiation beams, providing more intense radiation to cancer cells while offering greater protection to normal cells.

**TOTAL BODY RADIATION** prepares a patient’s body for a bone marrow transplant. The whole body receives radiation in order to suppress the immune system.
**IMAGE-GUIDED RADIATION THERAPY** (IGRT) uses cone-beam CT, KV X-rays or ultrasound waves to create an image of the organ right at the time of treatment for greater accuracy in the delivery of radiation therapy.

**TRILOGY** uses a cone-beam CT to create a detailed image of the tumor. We can then utilize the ideal therapy—including 3D CRT and IGRT—and the ideal radiation dose delivery for treatments that are highly targeted, more effective and with fewer side effects. We also use trilogy for stereotactic body radiosurgery.

**NOVALIS SHAPED-BEAM RADIOTHERAPY** is our treatment platform for stereotactic radiosurgery and body radiation therapy. It allows us to precisely focus radiation on the tumor so surrounding tissue receives little or no radiation.
Areas of particular expertise.

In every area of radiation oncology, we are able to give your patients the most advanced treatments. In the following areas, though, we are helping lead the nation toward new standards of care.

The Department of Radiation Oncology has particular expertise in the following areas:

- Total body irradiation
- High-dose rate brachytherapy
- Low-dose rate brachytherapy
- Novalis shaped-beam stereotactic radiosurgery
- Prostate seed implants
- GYN implants
- Image-guided external beam radiation treatment on Linacs
- Conformal radiation therapy
- Intensity modulated radiation therapy
- Image-guided radiation treatment on Trilogy and Novalis
- TomoTherapy radiation
- Prophylactic hip irradiation and other benign conditions
- Stereotactic body radiation therapy
- Liver lesion radiation
- Treatment of oligometastasis
- Accelerated partial breast radiation therapy: MammoSite or external beam
Our Team

The Department of Radiation Oncology at URMC offers your patients an experienced team of doctors, medical physicists, dosimetrists, nurses, radiation therapists and staff, many of whom have been with our department for ten or more years.

We have physicians who dedicate themselves to every cancer. Because each of them specialize in individual disease sites, as well as provide general oncology services, our doctors are able to provide the very highest level of care.

For more complete information on our doctors, their specialties and research interests, please visit www.urmc.rochester.edu/radiation-oncology.

Our Centers

Expertise is of first importance to your patients, but accessibility and convenience matter, too. Accordingly, our department offers treatment at four locations throughout the area.

The Wilmot Cancer Center is considered the leading institution for cancer treatment in our region. Its central location in Rochester, NY, draws patients from throughout the Northeast.

Highland Hospital, also located in Rochester, provides exceptional care to patients in a smaller hospital environment.

Unity Hospital, located in Greece, NY, provides easier access to patients who live on the west side of Rochester.

Sands Cancer Center, at Thompson Hospital in Canandaigua, NY, offers easier access to patients from throughout the Finger Lakes region.

Not all treatments are available at all locations. Should a patient need to travel to another center for treatment, our staff is available to make travel and scheduling arrangements more convenient.
Research

The Department of Radiation Oncology conducts clinical and translational research in basic science, cancer biology and radiation biology. Our department has been recognized for our expertise in the research of late effects and survivorship.

Our doctors and scientists have published numerous papers in leading journals, evidence of their commitment to leading-edge research and treatments. Our research in stereotactic radiosurgery and stereotactic body radiation is one important example. This research has helped to improve treatments for our patients.

The research we are performing helps us to provide all of our patients with the most advanced treatments, something that is of utmost importance to every person dealing with cancer.

Clinical Trials

The Department of Radiation Oncology at URMC offers the most radiation oncology clinical trials in our region. This is an important consideration for patients who are seeking innovative treatments.

Our involvement with clinical trials means we can offer your patient a wider array of choices. While many patients are well-served by the current standard of care, a clinical trial can often provide advanced treatment options that are not available anywhere else.

Our areas of research include the following:

- Research on radio-sensitizing drugs to make tumor cells more sensitive to radiation treatments.
- Research on ways to minimize the side effects that may occur after radiation treatments have ended.
- Research on more effective ways to reduce nausea, sleeplessness and excess weight loss caused by radiation treatments.

- We have full membership in the Radiation Therapy Oncology Group (RTOG), and we participate in the Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG) and the Children's Oncology Group (COG). Our cancer patients have access to numerous cutting-edge clinical trials through RTOG, SWOG and COG.
Education

Through our commitment to education, we not only train the radiation oncologists of tomorrow, we help to ensure that we will stay on the leading edge of care.

The Department of Radiation Oncology is a full academic department at the University of Rochester. Our faculty is nationally recognized and our department is a leading force in cancer treatment and research.

Our Residency Program has been fully accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) since 1971. Our program is designed to provide intellectual depth and professional growth through abundant clinical and didactic educational opportunities.

This program is helping provide the nation with exceptional radiation oncologists, while also helping our patients to have an exceptionally high level of care today.
Contact Us

If you would like to refer a patient to the Department of Radiation Oncology, please call us at one of our four locations.

We look forward to working with you and providing your patient with outstanding care.

RADIATION ONCOLOGY AT:
The Wilmot Cancer Center (585) 275-5575
Highland Hospital (585) 341-6750
The Sands Cancer Center (585) 396-6180
Unity Hospital (585) 225-3989
Visit us at: urmc.rochester.edu/radiation-oncology

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