

ROS Continues to Raise the Bar for Quality Radiation Therapy in the Atlanta Area

The technological advances in radiation oncology continue to enhance the safe, efficient and effective delivery of radiation therapy for the treatment of cancer patients. In order to keep pace with the ever-changing technology, Radiation Oncology Services (ROS) recently completed installation of Elekta Synergy® digital linear accelerators in two of its Atlanta area centers: ROS-Cobb and ROS-Riverdale. These highly sophisticated and complex linear accelerators are now fully operational to better serve cancer patients in the area. In addition, our other linear accelerators have been upgraded to provide the same exciting technology. All of us at ROS continue in our commitment to quality cancer care by providing all our centers with state-of-the-art technology. . . close to home.



Shown above, the Elekta Synergy® digital linear accelerator, which offers the highest quality radiation care available



"Staying on the forefront of technology is so important in radiation oncology. The ROS physicians and technical staff are always excited about new technology. Ultimately, advances in technology help us provide better patient care."

John H. Giesler, M.D.
Radiation Oncology Services

Why Elekta?

Elekta is a highly respected international medical-technology company supplying advanced and innovative radiation oncology systems to over 4,000 hospitals worldwide. Elekta treatment systems and software solu-

tions effectively and efficiently treat cancer patients and manage clinical operations. ROS is excited to incorporate Elekta products into our clinical practice to further accomplish our goal of providing the best possible radiation therapy in the communities we serve.

IMRT and IGRT: A Brief Overview

Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT) is an advanced radiation therapy technique that has become the standard of care for patients requiring very precise, high-dose radiation treatments. Through the advances of 3D conformal therapy and the use of sophisticated treatment planning computers, IMRT technology allows the radiation oncologist the ability to more accurately define the dose of radiation to the cancer and simultaneously

limit the dose to the surrounding normal organs. In an IMRT plan, each beam is composed of multiple “*beam-lets*” which modify the intensity of each beam. The overall effect is a more uniform and conformal dose to the cancer that in turn allows dose escalation, improved clinical outcomes and less treatment-related side effects.

Image Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT) is an exciting new technology developed to better account for two common daily treatment variations: patient position and organ motion. With IGRT, high-resolution x-ray images are obtained daily with the patient in the treatment position just moments before treatment delivery. These daily “*snap shots*” are compared to previous x-rays used in the treatment planning process. If any discrepancy in position or organ location exists, the patient’s position is precisely adjusted to correspond perfectly to the treatment plan. The result is unmatched clinical confidence that each and every treatment is delivered with precision, accuracy and consistency.

What is Synergy®?

The Elekta Synergy® digital linear accelerator complements ROS centers by enhancing our state-of-the-art capabilities. Synergy® offers a wide range of treatment beam energies, allowing the radiation oncologist more flexibility when customizing unique treatment plans for each individual patient. Through revolutionary technology, Synergy® is the first linear accelerator to address the important clinical concerns of both daily organ motion and patient position variations. The Synergy® IGRT platform integrates high-resolution daily CT

imaging with advanced radiation treatment techniques like IMRT. In addition, Synergy® is fully compatible with the ROS electronic information system, allowing easy access to a patient’s records, radiation treatment prescription and quality assurance data.

FOR PATIENTS, ELEKTA SYNERGY® MEANS:

- Confidence that radiation therapy is more safe and accurate than ever before.
- Higher doses of radiation can be effectively delivered.
- Radiation-induced side effects may be less.
- Continuous commitment from ROS to providing you the best possible cancer care.



“Elekta Synergy® with IGRT capabilities allows daily imaging for verification of patient set up. The exciting technology enhances precision and will be a significant benefit to our patients.”

Nancy H. Wiggers, M.D.
Radiation Oncology Services



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For more information, visit our
Web site at www.radonc.com