

## Resources

### Social Work Services

Social workers help you and your family cope with your illness, discuss your worries and concerns, and link you to community resources, including support groups. If you would like to speak with a social worker, ask one of your caregivers to request a social work visit or call 203.688.4550.

### Nutrition Clinic

A dietitian can provide you with a nutrition assessment and counseling, and answer questions about your nutritional needs. If you would like to speak with a dietitian, ask one of your caregivers to request a nutrition consultation.

### Chapel and Chaplaincy Services

An interfaith chapel is on the first floor of the South Pavilion, near the elevators. If you would like to speak with a chaplain, you may call the religious ministries department at 203.688.2151 during regular business hours or ask a member of the staff to page a chaplain at other times.

### Patient and Guest Relations

Patient representatives are available to help you with special requests or assistance Monday through Friday at 203.688.3430.

## Directions

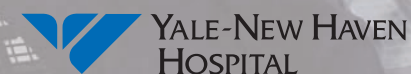
For pre-recorded directions to various buildings and parking areas at Yale-New Haven Hospital, call 203.688.1234.



20 York Street  
New Haven, CT 06510  
203.688.4242

[www.ynhh.org](http://www.ynhh.org)

## An Introduction to Radiation Oncology at Yale-New Haven Hospital



You have been referred to one of Yale-New Haven Hospital's radiation oncologists for a consultation in the Department of Radiation Oncology for treatment of your illness. Radiation therapy is one of several treatment options that may be selected for you. This brochure will provide you with general information and answer some frequently asked questions. If at any time you do not understand something, please ask your doctor or other caregivers additional questions.

### What happens during today's visit?

The first step is a medical history and physical examination by the radiation oncologist who will decide on your course of treatment. He or she will decide the area to be treated, length of treatment and any investigations that may be necessary.

### What is radiation therapy?

Radiation therapy is the use of high-energy x-rays to destroy abnormal cells. These abnormal cells are more sensitive to radiation than normal cells and can be destroyed. The treatment is painless, and usually takes only a few minutes a day.

Possible side effects of your treatment will be explained to you by our staff. In addition, staff will provide you with instructions about skin care and daily activities.

### When do I come in for treatment?

Most treatments are scheduled Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:45 p.m. A staff member will help you arrange your individual treatment schedule. Treatment time is short, but plan to spend 15-30 minutes in the department for each appointment.

The duration of treatment may vary from one to six weeks depending on your treatment plan. Your course of treatment is specific to you. If you cannot keep an appointment, please call your radiation therapist at 203.688.2939.

### General guidelines

Every patient is different and his or her reaction to treatment may vary. If you feel well, there is no need to change your lifestyle during this time. Some patients may not experience side effects during their course of treatment, while others may experience fatigue, loss of appetite and reddening of the skin. The staff will provide you with instructions about dealing with any effects you may feel. The area being treated may be marked with colored ink and care should be taken to maintain these marks during treatment. The staff will provide you with information about skin care.

Routine, weekly exams and blood tests may be required during the course of your treatment. A social worker and dietitian are available for consultation.

### General information

Your attending physician will be \_\_\_\_\_.

Your nurse will be \_\_\_\_\_.

In addition, a resident physician, \_\_\_\_\_, will be assisting in your care. If you have any questions or concerns, please call and speak with one of your caregivers.

Attending Physician	_____
Resident Physician	203.688.4344
Hunter 1 Clinic/Nurse	203.688.4344
Treatment Area/Therapists	203.688.2939
General Department Information	203.688.2939

The Department of Radiation Oncology is staffed Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The staff is on-call evenings, weekends and holidays and may be reached at 203.688.4344.

*We want to do everything possible to make your time with us as comfortable as possible. Please tell us how we can be of assistance to you.*