

The future of cancer treatment is here.
And it's only available at WellStar.

For more information, call WellStar's Cancer Connect line
at 1-877-366-6032 or visit wellstar.org/cancercare.



TomoTherapy® & CyberKnife®

WELLSTAR CANCER NETWORK



WellStar is proud to be the only healthcare system in metro Atlanta offering **TomoTherapy** and **CyberKnife**, giving patients and their physicians more options for treating tumors.

When it comes to choosing the right treatment for your cancer, your WellStar team is here for you. We're proud to be the only healthcare system in Atlanta offering one of the most innovative and personalized treatment systems available in the world: TomoTherapy. Designed to revolve around you, not only does the system itself physically revolve around your body during treatment, it also allows us to customize certain aspects of your treatment in ways formerly not possible.

Unlike conventional systems, which allow radiation to be delivered from only a few directions, TomoTherapy rotates in 360 degrees, meaning that treatments can be delivered continuously to the tumor from every angle. More beam directions give physicians more control in how they plan treatments – and more assurance that the dose will be confined to the tumor, reducing the risk of short- and long-term side effects.

BEHIND THE SCENES

Before beginning TomoTherapy treatment, your WellStar treatment team puts together a plan using 3-D images from a combination of scanning technologies (such as CT and MRI) and special software that help define the size and shape of each tumor and proximity to surrounding sensitive organs or tissues. Your doctor then prescribes how much radiation the tumor should receive, as well as acceptable levels for healthy tissue nearby. The TomoTherapy treatment system calculates the appropriate pattern, position and strength of the radiation beams to be delivered, based on the prescribed dose.

IS TOMOTHERAPY RIGHT FOR YOU?

Your team will work with you and your doctor to make that decision. So far, more than 3 million treatments have been delivered worldwide.



THE DAY OF TREATMENT

After checking in, you'll be taken to the TomoTherapy treatment room where a radiation therapist will help you onto the TomoTherapy system's couch. You will most likely lie on your back, and your therapist may fit you with a special device to comfortably help you remain still during treatment. If imaging is necessary, the couch will move you through the ring once for daily CTrue™ imaging. Based on these CT images, the therapist may fine-tune your position via small couch adjustments. Then the couch will move you through the ring once again, this time more slowly, as the TomoTherapy system delivers your daily treatment.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

TomoTherapy treatments are painless. The experience is similar to having a CT scan or an x-ray taken. You'll hear hums and clicks of the system at work—calibrating to your customized treatment plan—but treatment is comfortable and peaceful.

Though its name may conjure up images of scalpels and surgery, the CyberKnife Robotic Radiosurgery System involves no cutting. For many patients, the CyberKnife treatment can offer a non-invasive alternative to surgery for the treatment of both cancerous and non-cancerous tumors.

The CyberKnife System is composed of a radiation delivery device, called a linear accelerator (or Linac), which is mounted on a robotic arm. The flexibility of the robotic arm enables CyberKnife to deliver radiation to tumors anywhere in the body. It also utilizes sophisticated software and advanced imaging to track tumor and patient movement and adjust the beams of high-dose radiation to ensure treatment is delivered with a high degree of accuracy. Because of this exceptional tracking ability, CyberKnife eliminates the need for patients to have stabilizing frames on their head or limit their breathing during treatment to minimize movement of the tumor.

With CyberKnife, patients can complete treatment in one to five days, compared to the weeks it takes to complete a course of conventional radiation therapy. In addition, it provides a pain-free, non-surgical option for patients who have inoperable or surgically complex tumors, or who may be looking for an alternative to surgery.



CYBERKNIFE TREATMENTS:

- Pain-free
- Non-invasive
- No anesthesia required
- Outpatient procedure
- Exceptional accuracy spares healthy tissue and organs
- No recovery time
- Immediate return to normal activity
- No invasive head or body frame
- No breath holding or "respiratory gating" required during treatment

CyberKnife patients routinely report that they have no side effects or minimal side effects from their treatment, and in most cases, they can immediately return to their normal daily activities. Speak with your doctor about possible side effects you may encounter.

CyberKnife's unique capability results in the delivery of more accurate and higher doses of radiation to the tumor, while avoiding the surrounding healthy tissue and reducing the side effects commonly associated with conventional radiation therapy treatments.