



# Radiation Therapy for Lung Cancer

Radiation therapy is an effective treatment option for lung cancer that offers several benefits for patients



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## RADIATION THERAPY FOR LUNG CANCER:

# A Comprehensive Overview

Lung cancer is a serious health concern affecting millions of individuals worldwide. Lung cancer happens when cells in the lung mutate or change. Most often, this change happens when people breathe in dangerous, toxic substances. Tobacco use is the number one cause of lung cancer. The disease can also be caused by breathing secondhand smoke, being exposed to substances such as asbestos or radon at home or work, or having a family history of lung cancer. Radiation therapy is one of the treatment options available for lung cancer that offers several benefits for patients.

### ADVANTAGES OF RADIATION THERAPY:

- Radiation therapy can target cancer cells specifically, while minimizing damage to surrounding healthy tissue, allowing for the preservation of the lung.
- Compared to treatment options like chemotherapy and surgery, radiation therapy has a relatively low risk of side effects and complications.
- Radiation therapy is also effective at preventing the recurrence of lung cancer, this is especially the case when used in combination with other treatments such as surgery or chemotherapy.
- It is a non-invasive treatment option, which is particularly beneficial for patients who may be unable or unwilling to undergo surgery, or in cases where surgery is not feasible or appropriate.

### EFFECTIVENESS OF RADIATION THERAPY:

- Studies have shown that radiation therapy can reduce the risk of lung cancer recurrence in some cases.
- Radiation therapy is a well-established treatment option with a long track record of effectiveness in treating lung cancer.

### SIDE EFFECTS:

- Radiation therapy typically only causes minor side effects, such as skin irritation or fatigue, compared to other treatment options like surgery and chemotherapy.

### CONCLUSION:

Radiation therapy is a proven and effective treatment option for lung cancer with a low risk of complications.

It offers many benefits such as no anesthesia or hospitalization required, preservation of the lung, and mild to manageable side effects. Radiation therapy improves the patient's quality of life during and after treatment, and it should be considered as part of a comprehensive treatment plan for lung cancer.

### QUICK FACTS

2<sup>nd</sup>

Lung cancer is the second most common cancer in both men and women in the U.S.

1 in 16

One in 16 people in the U.S. will be diagnosed with lung cancer in their lifetime.

no. 1

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in the U.S.

