

Who to contact for more information

Departmental contacts :

Answerphone: 01743261179

Please leave a message on the answerphone and we will get back to you

Opening times: 8.30am to 6pm

PALS

Patient Advise and Liaison Service

We act on your behalf when handling patient and family concerns, liaising with staff, managers and where appropriate, relevant organisations to negotiate immediate or prompt solutions. We can also help you get support from other local or national agencies.

Royal Shrewsbury Hospital,

Tel: 0800 783 0057 or 01743 261691

Princess Royal Hospital,

Tel: 01952 282888

Other Sources of Information

NHS 111 - A fast and easy way to get the right help, at any time. NHS 111 is available 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year. Telephone: 111 (free from a landline or mobile)

Website: www.nhs.uk

Patient UK - Provides leaflets on health and disease as well as links to national support/self help groups and a directory of UK health websites.

Website: www.patient.info

Additional Information

Our department is located on the ground floor of the Lingen Davies Centre at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital. Reception is accessible via a wheelchair lift

As you enter the main entrance to the hospital continue along the road until you see the helipad and A & E dept, the Lingen Davies Centre is just pass this on your left.

Parking is available directly across from the department, patients having treatment here can claim free parking, all you have to do is give your details to reception on arrival.

We are a Dementia Friendly Department , please contact us directly on our 01743 261179 if you require additional help. Please leave a message



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Radiotherapy Department at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital



A guide to Radiotherapy Treatment

What is Radiotherapy?

Radiotherapy uses high-energy rays, to treat disease. It works by damaging cells in the area that is treated. The X Rays pass through normal healthy cells and the cancer cells. The normal cells have a memory and begin the process of repairing as soon as the treatment has finished each day. The cancer cells are abnormal and do not have a memory and so cannot repair, they eventually die off. This is why a course of radiotherapy is often over a number of weeks.

Many patients with cancer will have radiotherapy as part of their treatment.

As well as aiming to cure, radiation can be used to control the symptoms of cancer and improve your quality of life.

Treatments are usually given once a day, with a rest at the weekend. Each treatment session takes between 10 to 30 minutes. You can neither see nor feel the Radiotherapy, we ask you to lie still and breather normally. We are unable to stay in the room with you but we are watching you the whole time using CCTV—if you need us we will come straight into the room

Preparation for Treatment

Radiotherapy is a very personalised treatment and you will need to have a Planning CT scan before you can begin your treatment.

The Clinical Oncologist will use this scan to identify the areas they wish to treat and areas they need to keep dose down to a minimum, this will help make side effects manageable.

The Physics department will use this information to create an individualised treatment plan. This process can take some time so your first treatment appointment will be several days after your CT scan

This plan is personal to you and you will need to follow any instructions you are given to ensure that we can give you the best treatment.

Patients are asked to bring and change into a gown each day for treatment as clothing will need to be removed in the area of treatment.

What happens during your Radiotherapy appointment?

Your first appointment will be for a planning CT scan. We need to scan you in the position in which you will be treated and put reference marks on your skin so that we can get you into the same position each time you come.

The marks are very small tattoos.

At every subsequent appointment the Radiographers will line up your tattoos with the machine so that you are ready for your treatment. During the course of this we will take X ray or CT images to ensure that we are able to position you in the same place at each visit.

These images are useful to us as they can confirm that we are treating the right area but they do not give information about how you are responding to treatment.

External radiotherapy doesn't make people radioactive so it is perfectly safe for patients to be with other people, including children, throughout treatment.

However, it is extremely important that patients are not pregnant or become pregnant during their course of radiotherapy.