

## Meet the Team

The Radiation Oncology department is full of many different team members. Each person is here to help the radiation therapy process in many different ways.

### Radiation Oncologist

The Radiation Oncologist is the physician that will decide the best radiation treatment plan for your child. You will have several visits with them to discuss how treatment is progressing.

### Radiation Therapist

The Radiation Therapist is the person who will administer the radiation treatments each day. They position your child for the treatments and create set-up devices for your child to ensure that they will not move during treatment.

### Radiation Therapy Nurse

The nurse will go over management of side effects with you before your child begins treatment. They will also help to examine your child on a weekly basis to see how treatment is going.

### Social Worker

The social worker is available to help if you need any additional resources or support materials.



Contact us for information.

### Department Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday: 7:30am - 4:30pm



503-494-8756



Department of Radiation Medicine  
3181 S.W. Sam Jackson Park Road, L337  
Portland, OR 97239-3098

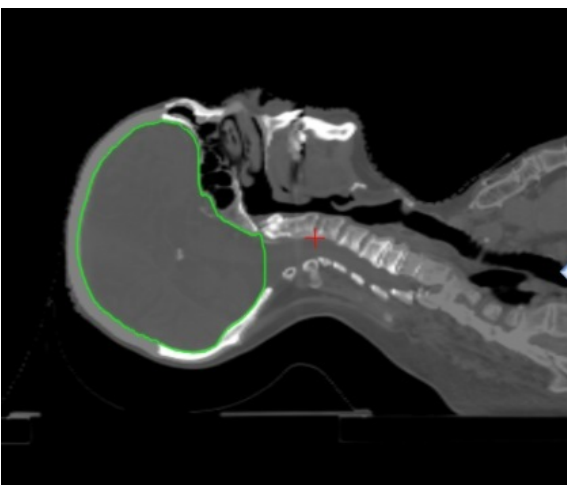
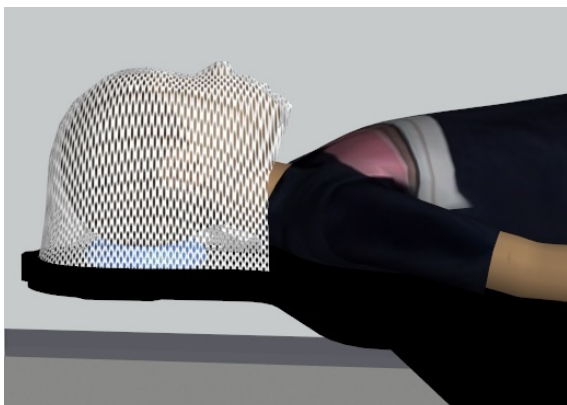
# OHSU RADIATION ONCOLOGY



**PREPARING YOUR  
CHILD FOR  
RADIATION THERAPY**

## What is Simulation?

Your child's simulation appointment is the first step for radiation treatments. During this appointment, the Radiation Therapists will decide what the best position is for your child during treatment. The position they chose ensures that treatments are accurate and reproducible on the treatment machine. They will make a mask that prevents your child from moving while the radiation is being delivered. They will also take a CT scan of your child while they are wearing the mask. Your child will not receive radiation treatment at this appointment - it is just to "simulate" the radiation treatments.



### 1 Making the Mask

The mask starts out hard and is placed in a warm water bath until it becomes stretchy. The therapists will stretch it over your child's head and attach it to the table. At this point your child needs to hold still so the therapists can mold the mask to their head and face. Once the mask is on, it takes about 15 minutes to dry. During this time it is very important that your child does not move, because the mask needs to form to their facial features without being too loose.

### 2 CT Scan

While the mask is on your child, the therapists will do a CT scan. During this time we will have you step out of the room to avoid getting a dose of radiation from the scan. The therapists will also be in a separate room during the scan, but they can see and hear your child at all times. This scan helps us to visualize their internal anatomy, such as the brain, and will be used to create a treatment plan that treats an area decided by the Physician and avoids treating normal tissue.

### 3 After the CT Scan

Once the mask is finished drying, the therapists will take it off of your child and the simulation appointment will be finished. The mask will be kept in the treatment room for the duration of your child's treatments, so it can be used each day.

## Preparing Your Child For Simulation

The simulation process is very important because the therapists are creating your child's custom set-up device. It will be used every day to ensure that treatments are accurate. In order for the mask to be made correctly, it is important for your child not to move and listen to directions given by the therapists. Here are some tips to prepare them for the simulation appointment and their

- Have your child lay on their back on a hard surface for up to 20 minutes to prepare them for what the CT and treatment table will feel like.
- Practice having them hold as still as possible. Have them work on breathing techniques to remain calm and still. In order for treatment to be accurate, they won't be able to move once the mask is on.
- During the simulation appointment the mask will start out warm. To prepare your child for this, apply a warm compress to their face for several minutes. The mask will not be warm for treatments.
- If your child has a favorite stuffed animal, bring it with them to their appointments so they have something familiar to hold when you are not in the room.