

Radiation Therapy: Support and Resources



When you find out you have cancer, you most likely have questions about treatment.



Radiation therapy uses high-energy X-rays to kill or slow the growth of cancer cells. It can also affect healthy cells nearby and cause side effects that depend on:

- What type of radiation therapy is done
- What part of your body receives the radiation
- How long your treatment lasts

Getting support

You are not facing cancer treatment alone. Keep a list of any questions you have for your radiation therapy team. Ask these questions during your visits. Call your team if you need to.

You can also get help from:

- Family members
- Friends
- Support groups (in person or online)
- Counseling
- Social workers, case managers, or navigators

Talk with your healthcare team if you need a referral to counseling.

Cancer resources

To learn more about cancer and to find support groups, contact the resources below:

- [American Cancer Society at www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org) or 800-227-2345
- [National Cancer Institute at www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov) or 800-422-6237
- [American Society for Radiation Oncology at www.rtanswers.org](http://www.rtanswers.org) or 703-502-1550

- [American Society of Clinical Oncology at www.cancer.net](http://www.cancer.net) or 888-651-3038

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