Radiation Oncology

An Introduction: How, When and Why

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Leading Specialty Healthcare for Pets

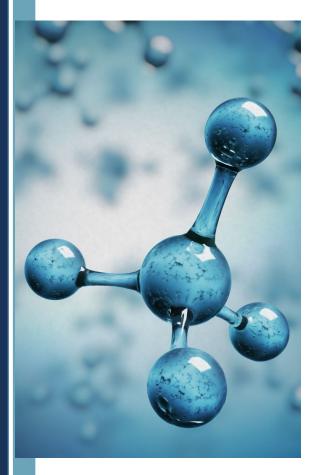
Radiation Oncology – Cats, Dogs and Physics

Clinical application of radiation

- HOW radiation therapy is implemented and the methods of administration
- WHEN radiation therapy is appropriate and common diseases and presentation of patients
- WHY use definitive protocols versus palliative (case reviews)



HOW?





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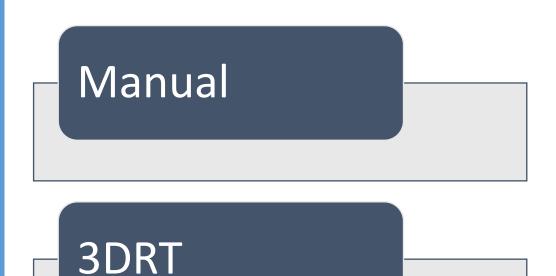


Dogs, Cats and Physics

- Radiation for therapy is comprised of photons or electrons
 - Produced in a **Lin**ear **Ac**celerator
 - Some use of Protons and possibly Carbon ions in the future
- Energies of photons differ from those used in imaging
 - MV energy versus KV energy



Types of Administration

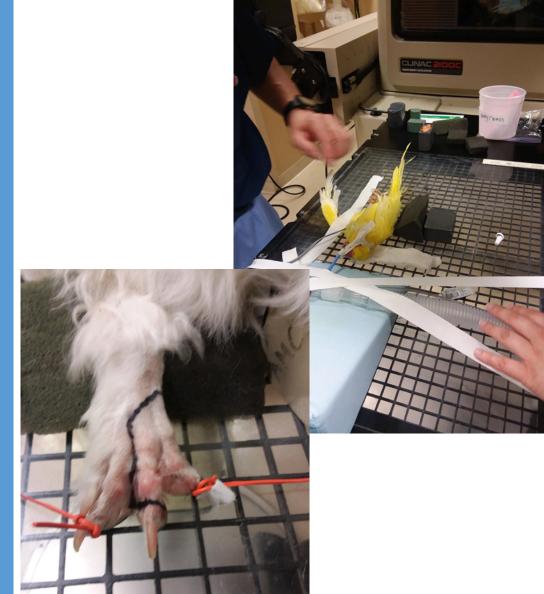


IMRT

Stereotactic



MANUAL



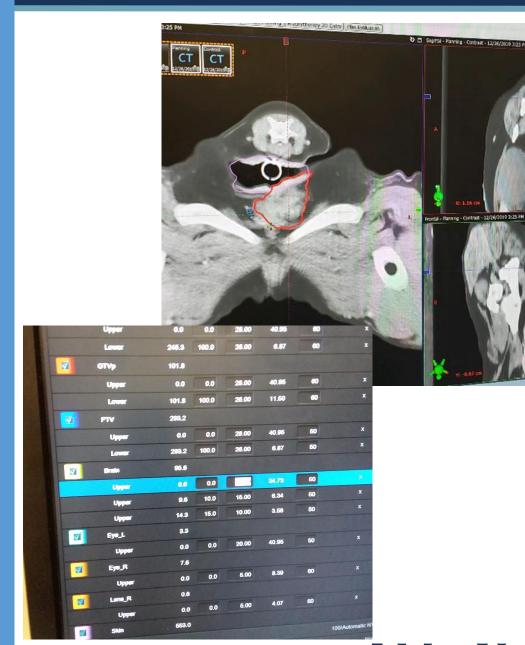
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3DRT

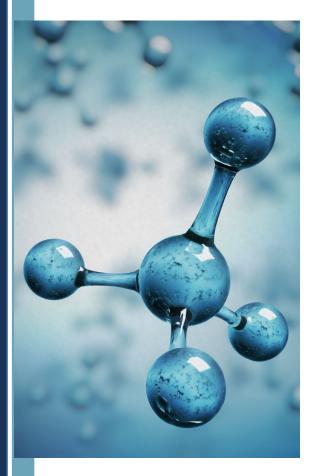


IMRT





WHEN and WHY?





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Goals of Radiation

Tumor Control

- Microscopic disease
- Gross disease
- Concurrent with other modalities
- Palliative
 - Bone pain
 - Bleeding
 - Inflammation

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Methods of Administration

Tumor Control

- Fractionated Protocols
- SBRT, SRT
- Palliative
 - Hypofractionated

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Fractionated Protocols

Total dose is broken into multiple tiny doses

Multiple Treatments is usually between 10 to 21

 Depends on the site and the type of cancer

3-5 treatments per week



Fractionated Protocols

Higher cumulative dose

HIGHER DOSE TO THE TUMOR

Results in more acute side effects (fast dividing cells)

 Usually 1-2 weeks depending on severity

Limits late tissue effects to less than 5 %

 Vascular damage/scar tissue formation



Coarsely Fractionated Protocols

Fewer BUT larger doses

 Usually between 2 to 6 treatments

Typically, one treatment per week

Lower cumulative dose

LOWER DOSE TO THE TUMOR



Coarsely Fractionated Protocols

Results in less acute side effects

Usually limited to hair loss and pigmentation

Increased risk of late tissue effects: 10-30% (dependent on dose)

Complications: expressed late tissue effects



SRT, SBRT Protocols

Definitive Therapy

3-5 treatments – over a shortened period

Treatment of the tumor without prescribed margins

- Must have gross disease present
 - Examples: Brain and Nasal

Historically – was designed for brain tumors

Designed by a neurosurgeon



Acute Side Effects



Affect rapidly growing tissues

- Desquamation
- Mucositis
- Colitis
- Rhinitis



Late Side Effects



6 months to 2 years after radiation

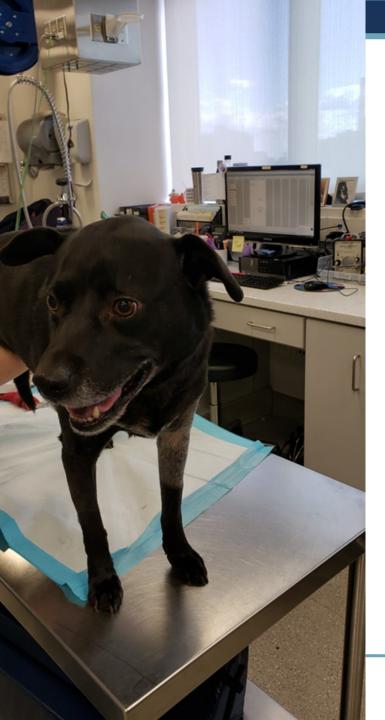
- Necrosis
- Fibrosis
- Secondary Cancers



Common Clinically Treated Tumors

- STS
- Nasal Tumors
- Brain Tumors
- MCT
- AGASACA
- TCC
- Oral Tumors
- OSA





Case 1: Beckett

- 7 yr old, MN Lab Mix
- low grade incompletely excised MCT medial aspect of the L elbow (Mitotic count = 0)
- Therapy? (Fractionated Coarsely Fractionated SBRT)

- MCT are very radiosensitive
- Young dog
- Financial concerns



Beckett

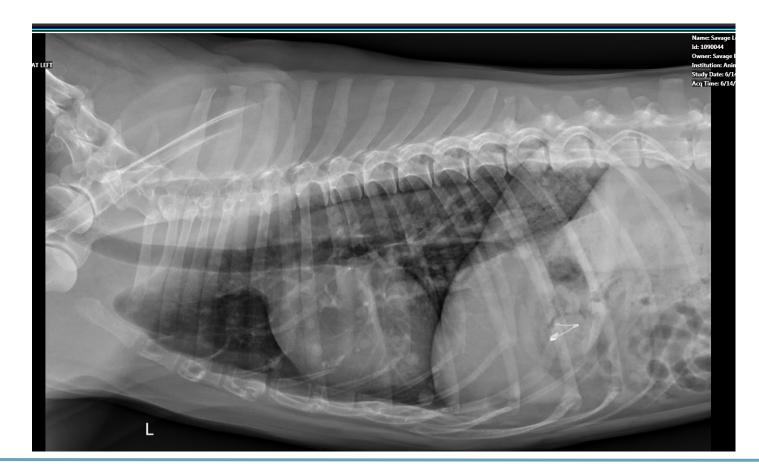
- Fractionated Protocol
- Manual radiation (4 Gy x 10 fractions = 40 Gy)
- Almost one year out no signs of late side effects
- No evidence of recurrence





Case 2: Lola

- 9 yr old, FS Retriever mix
- Firmly attached thyroid tumor
 - thyroid carcinoma with metastatic disease





Lola

Referral hospital recommended no therapy and euthanasia

Second Opinion.....what can we do?

Therapy? (Fractionated – Coarsely Fractionated – SBRT)

Lola

SBRT: 10 Gy x 3 treatments = 30 Gy

Owned by a Medical Oncology Resident

- Carboplatin : neutropenia
- Palladia: 1 year
- No therapy currently

Two years post RT, static locally/progressive thoracic mets





• 10 yr old MN, Yorkshire Terrier

Narrowly excised AGASACA (Sept 2018)

- Recurrence noted June 2019
 - Hypercalcemia
 - Obstipation
 - Medial iliac lymphadenopathy





- Therapy
 - Fractionated, Coarsely Fractionated or SBRT?

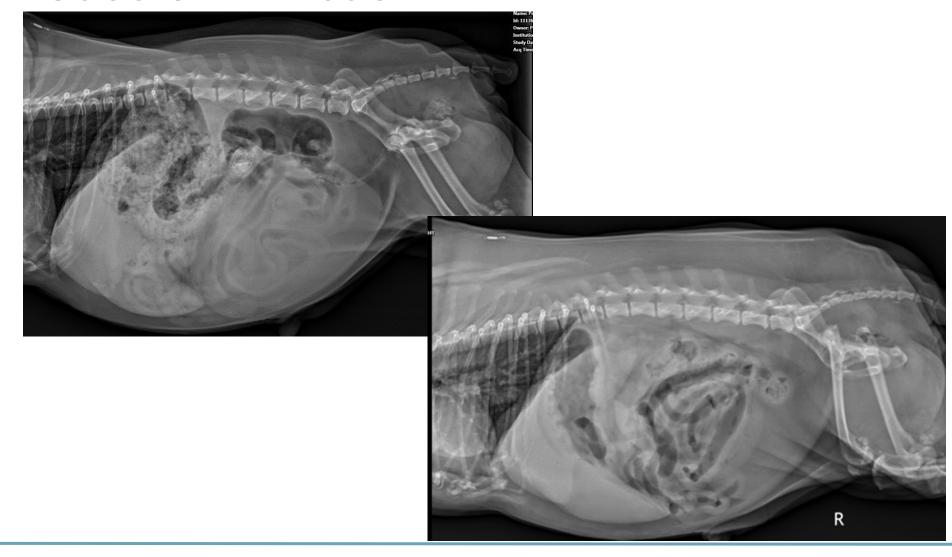


Coarsely Fractioned: 6 Gy x 6 treatments = 36 Gy

Emergent MANUAL treatment

IMRT planning immediately after 2nd treatment

Finished on 9/12/19





Case 4: Mabel

- 5 yr old, FS Cockapoo
- Left perianal grade III STS
- Mitotic Count 36

- Therapy?
- Fractionated
- Coarsely Fractionated
- SBRT





Case 4: Mabel

- Coarsely Fractionated
- 6 Gy x 6 treatments = 36 Gy
- Staging planned at three-month intervals





QUESTIONS?

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