

Image guided external beam radiotherapy



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Image guided external beam radiotherapy (IGEBRT) is one of the options to treat localised prostate cancer and is particularly used when patients are not suitable for surgery or LDR brachytherapy. This is performed publicly through the Royal Adelaide Hospital Radiation Oncology Department at the Royal Adelaide Hospital or the Lyell McEwin Hospital or privately (private insurance not required) through Adelaide Radiotherapy Centre at South Terrace Adelaide, Flinders Private Hospital or Tennyson Centre at Kurralta Park.

Tiny inert gold seed fiducial markers are inserted as a minor day surgical procedure under local anaesthetic and trans-rectal ultrasound guidance to aid patient positioning before each treatment once the course begins. CT & MRI scans are then performed for treatment planning. Prostate radiotherapy usually involves 37 quick painless treatments over seven and a half weeks, five days a week.

It is common to experience some tiredness and bladder and bowel irritability during treatment and following treatment there may be some persistent, usually minor changes bladder, bowel and erectile function.



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