

BRAINLAB • ORG

At this point, you will have many questions for your medical team. Consider putting together a general list about your brain tumor and treatment options. At this point, you should also consider getting a second opinion at another facility specializing in the treatment of your cancer.

- Who is on my radiation therapy team?
- What type of radiation is right for my brain tumor?
- What does radiation feel like? Does it hurt?
- What does radiation do to my brain tumor? To my healthy tissue?
- What are the chances that radiation therapy will work on my cancer?
- How long will my treatment take? How long does the therapy take to work on my tumor?
- Will I need other treatments along with radiation therapy?
If so, which ones and what is the order that I will receive these treatments?
- Will radiation therapy affect my ability to have children?
- What are some support groups for radiation therapy that I could turn to during treatment?
- How should I prepare for this financially? Do you take my insurance?
How much of the treatment is covered by my insurance?

External beam radiation questions

- What are the differences between the external beam radiation systems you use?
- Which system and treatment type are the best for my tumor?
- Will my treatment be outpatient (do I have to stay overnight)?
- Will I have to wear a headframe and what is that process?
- Will there be any side effects? Will the side effects go away after I finish treatment?
- How do we manage my side effects?
Will there be any 'late' side effects (over six months later) after my treatment is over?
- Stereotactic radiosurgery questions
- Is stereotactic radiosurgery an option for my brain cancer treatment?
- What are the benefits of stereotactic radiosurgery for my brain tumor?
- What are the different SRS technologies and advantages?
- Will my side effects be different with SRS 'beam shaping'?
- Do I have to wear a head frame or is it non-invasive, or 'frameless'?
- How do you know or ensure that SRS is accurate?