

Will my appointments be at the same time every day?

Each day, many patients arrive for radiation therapy. Appointments need to be juggled around often, usually to accommodate each patient's weekly visit with the doctor. It is very difficult to get patient appointment times at the exact same time every day, and it is also very difficult to accommodate specific requests. The unit clerks at the reception desk will try as best as they can to carry out your appointment time requests, however, it is often not possible. Let the clerks know at the desk as far in advance as possible of any concerns you may have about your appointments, including problems with child care, work, transportation, or other doctor's appointments.

Can I have my appointments early on Friday and late on Monday?

Many of the patients coming daily for treatment live far from Halifax. Often these patients are staying at one of the lodges and are away from their families. The unit clerks at the reception desk will try very hard to get patients that have long distances to travel on a weekend in early on Friday and late on Monday. Most requests for these popular treatment times will not be done unless you are a patient travelling far away for the weekend.

Questions you may want to ask the Health Care Team

- What day of the week am I scheduled to see my doctor?
- How far in advance will I know my appointments?
- Can I have an early appointment on Friday and a late one on Monday?
- Do I have to call the lodge to confirm my reservation?



Capital Health

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CG85-1011(01/2004)

Radiation Therapy:

What You Need to Know About Your Appointments

There are several things you should know about your radiation therapy appointments. This pamphlet should answer most questions you may have about your appointments and hopefully help you plan ahead for your upcoming treatments.

How will I find out when my first treatment is?

Once you have had your markings (simulation) done, and all the planning for your treatment is complete, you will get a phone call to let you know when your treatments will start. A unit clerk from the clinic will call you with the exact time for your first radiation treatment. You will be asked to come 15 minutes before your actual treatment time to register.

Most patients will have several weeks of treatment, and some patients will need to have a place to stay while they are here for treatments. The unit clerk who will call you with your first appointment will make your reservation at either Point Pleasant Lodge or The Lodge That Gives.

If you will be staying at Point Pleasant Lodge, you need to call the lodge to confirm your reservation. You must call (902) 421-1599 the morning of the day you will be booking into the lodge.

What will happen on my first day of treatment?

You need to check in at the reception desk in the Radiation Therapy Department. A unit clerk will greet you and register you. The clerk will give you an appointment card. The appointment time for your next treatment will be written on your card for you. Once you have your appointment card for your next treatment, you can have a seat in the waiting room near the reception desk. The same appointment card will be used to help you keep track of all of your appointments, so bring your card back each day. A radiation therapist will come to the waiting room to take you in for your treatment.

When do I see my radiation oncologist?

Once a week you are scheduled to have a visit with your radiation oncologist and nurse. Every doctor has a different day to see patients for a check up. A member of the staff will tell you which day is your scheduled day to see the doctor. On that day, you will need to wait in the same waiting room after your treatment to see the doctor. Be prepared to be in the clinic longer than usual on your doctor visit day.