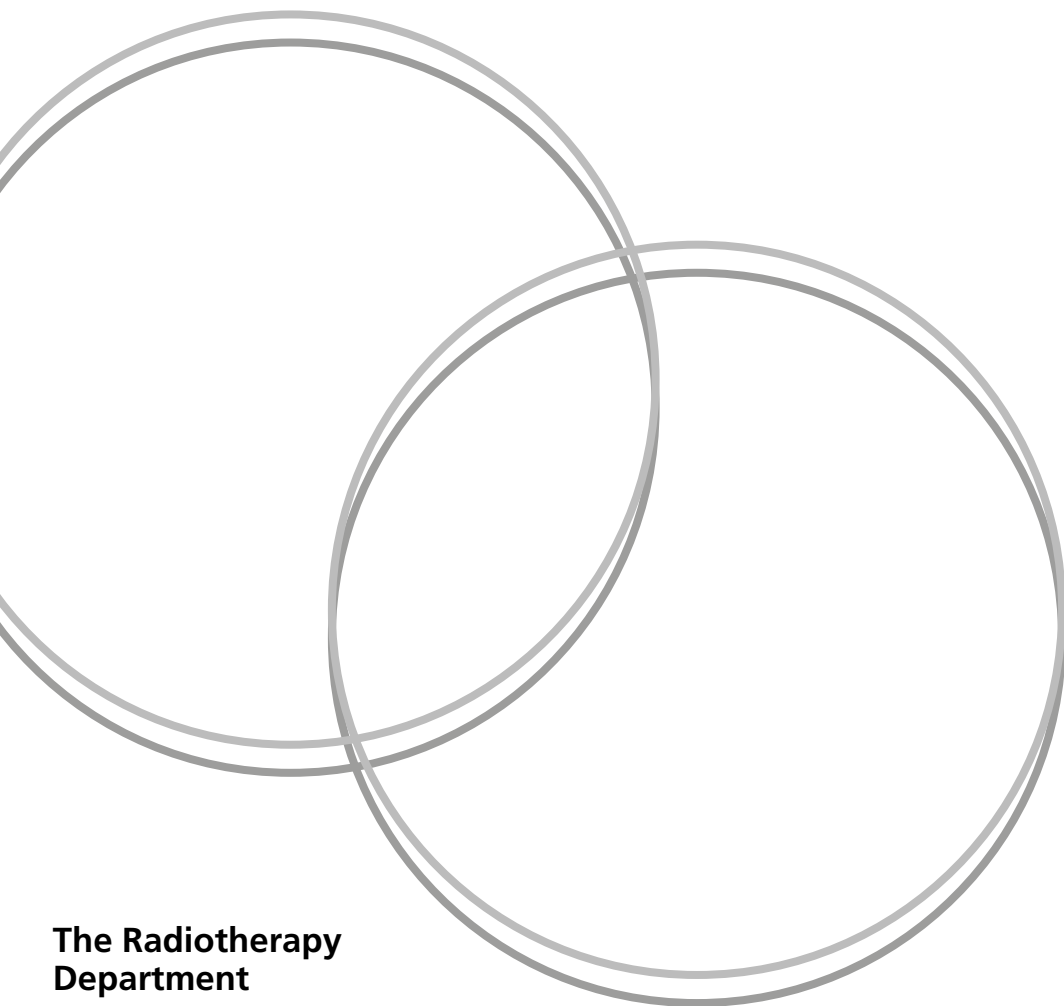




Oxford University Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

MR Linac Treatment for pelvic cancer

Information for Patients



**The Radiotherapy
Department**

This information leaflet outlines what to expect if you are having treatment on a magnetic resonance linear accelerator – MR Linac. In addition, before your first appointment, you will receive a phone call to explain any additional preparation needed for your appointments and to answer any questions.

Planning appointment

The appointment will last two to three hours and will involve an MRI scan in the MR Linac, followed by a CT scan.

At this appointment:

1. A therapeutic radiographer will explain the planning process and ask you to fill in an MRI safety questionnaire
2. You may be asked to empty your bladder completely then drink a small amount of water to ensure that your bladder feels about half full for the scans.
3. You will be asked to change into scrubs and remove any metal objects such as jewellery, hearing aids, glasses or dentures. Metal objects may be attracted to the MR Linac and can distort MR images.
4. You will be positioned for your MRI scan in the MR Linac. The therapeutic radiographer will make temporary markings on your skin and place soft pads ('coils') over your pelvis. These pads will help enhance the image quality of your scan.
5. The MRI scan will take about 30 minutes. You will be able to speak to us through an intercom.
6. When your MRI scan is complete, you will then have your CT scan in another room. The CT scan will take about 20 minutes. You will be in the same position as the MRI scan.
7. After your scan, you can go home.

Your treatment

Your treatment will be individualised to you so not all of the following steps may be applicable. Your care team will explain what will happen at each appointment.

Each day you may be asked to empty your bladder and drink some water so that your bladder feels about half full. This is to ensure your bladder fullness on treatment is consistent with your planning.

You will be asked to do many of the same steps as at your planning scan, such as removing accessories, changing clothes, getting into position and having coils placed on your pelvis.

During each treatment session, you will have a new MRI scan which will be compared with your planning scans. We may make adjustments to your planned treatment based on the new MRI scan and the positioning of your body, tumour and internal organs.

Your treatment will take 45 to 60 minutes. You will not be able to empty your bladder during this time. We will talk to you regularly throughout your treatment and you can talk to us through an intercom. You can go straight home after each session. A member of your MR linac team will call you 7 to 10 days after your treatment course has finished to see how you are feeling and answer any questions you may have.

- *Sections of this document were used with permission from GenesisCare*

Further Information

If you need an interpreter or would like this information leaflet in another format, such as Easy Read, large print, Braille, audio, electronically or another language, please speak to the department where you are being seen. You will find their contact details on your appointment letter.

Author: MR Linac treatment team
August 2020
Review: August 2023
Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
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