



The Southwest Washington Medical Center website offers more information about CyberKnife, including videos and images.

www.swmedicalcenter.org/cyberknife

Learn more about CyberKnife radiosurgery and talk to others who have been through an experience similar to yours by visiting the CyberKnife Support Group website. www.cyberknifesupport.org

"The CyberKnife room at Southwest is quiet and peaceful. I listened to music and thought about my family. I might have dozed off a little. What a wonderful facility! The staff is well-educated and trained, and they were a comfort to my husband and me."

— Thelma O., CyberKnife lung cancer patient



Southwest Washington Medical Center

Cancer Center 5th St. Building
8821 NE 5th St. (off Mill Plain at 87th Ave.)
Vancouver, WA 98664
360.514.2927 (CYBR)

www.swmedicalcenter.org/cyberknife

The Southwest Difference

The diagnosis of cancer can be overwhelming. You and your loved ones may be facing many questions, medical treatment options and lifestyle changes.

At Southwest's Regional Cancer Center, we believe that superb cancer care goes beyond the latest technology and innovative treatments. We are here to help you and your loved ones keep the best quality of your life throughout your journey with cancer.

Cancer Support Group

360.514.2174

www.swmedicalcenter.org/cancersupport



SOUTHWEST
Regional Cancer Center
Cancer care for the whole person

P.O. Box 1600
Vancouver, WA 98668

360.514.2174

www.swmedicalcenter.org/cancercenter

Understanding CyberKnife®



SOUTHWEST
Regional Cancer Center
Cancer care for the whole person



Southwest Washington Medical Center is proud to be the first in the Vancouver/Portland metropolitan area and southwest Washington to offer the revolutionary technology of the CyberKnife® Stereotactic Radiosurgery System.

CyberKnife brings new hope for patients with tumors and lesions that have previously been diagnosed as inoperable or untreatable with existing technology.

What is CyberKnife?



Stereotactic Radiosurgery System, or CyberKnife, is a non-invasive outpatient procedure that is less risky and has fewer complications than traditional cancer treatment surgery.

CyberKnife can treat tumors and lesions anywhere in the body that previously may have been considered inoperable or inaccessible by radiation therapy. Southwest's CyberKnife physicians have unparalleled flexibility in targeting cancerous tumors, abnormal blood vessel masses and many other life-threatening medical conditions, including:

- Bone and bone marrow
- Brain and spine
- Lung
- Prostate
- Trigeminal nerve disorders
- Coronary artery (arteriovenous malformation or AVM)
- Breast
- Kidney
- Pancreas
- Liver

"Unlike the Gamma Knife which requires a frame attached to the skull, CyberKnife is a frameless, more comfortable and convenient radiosurgery procedure for patients."

— Charlotte Kubicky, MD

What Are CyberKnife's Benefits?

This non-invasive procedure reduces complications associated with more traditional surgery methods.

- No scalpel or incision, no blood loss
- Reduces or eliminates the risk of infection, hemorrhage and nerve damage
- Better access to hard-to-reach tumors
- More accurate radiation targeting
- No anesthesia
- No hospital stay (outpatient procedure)
- No recovery time, allowing you to return to normal activities right away

How Does CyberKnife Work?

Southwest's CyberKnife team customizes a treatment plan (usually one to five treatments) for each patient. Using robotics technology, the CyberKnife system locates the position of the tumor. Then, using a flexible range of motion, the robotic arm delivers highly focused beams of radiation to the tumor.

The imaging system is programmed to verify the position of the tumor. The technology is so precise, the system can adjust to the rise and fall of the patient's breathing. This ensures highly accurate delivery directly to the tumor while avoiding the healthier surrounding tissues.

What Happens Before Treatment?

Before your treatment your doctor may order other tests such as CT or MRI. These tests will help your doctor plan your treatment and locate the tumors. Also, before your treatment you will have an appointment to be fitted for a face mask or other device that will help keep your body stabilized during your treatments.

Some patients may need to undergo placement of fiducials, or markers, to show the exact location of

the tumor. This is a minor outpatient procedure using local anesthetic.

What Happens During Treatment?

During the treatment, you will lie on a table wearing the custom fit mask or stabilizer, as the robotic arm positions the beam to deliver your radiation treatment.

Usually radiosurgery takes one to five treatments. Most will last one to two hours. During treatment, patients lie comfortably, listening to music or looking at the beautiful artwork in Southwest's CyberKnife treatment room. Most patients immediately return to their normal activities after treatment.

Southwest's CyberKnife team is led by radiation oncologist S. Christopher Hoffelt, MD. Before joining the Regional Cancer Center, Dr. Hoffelt was part of the team at Baltimore's Sinai Hospital that introduced the CyberKnife technology for tumor treatments.

Specially trained, highly qualified medical experts operate the CyberKnife. The team includes a surgeon, radiation oncologist, medical oncologist, physicist, radiation therapist, oncology nurses or other healthcare professionals. Your referring physician will give you the details of your CyberKnife Team. The team will work with your referring physician to ensure that your customized CyberKnife plan can deliver the best possible treatment outcome.

How Safe Is CyberKnife?

Since 2001 CyberKnife has been used to treat more than 50,000 patients worldwide, and currently more than 150 systems have been installed in leading hospitals in North and South America, Europe and Asia. In addition to Southwest Washington Medical Center, 90 U.S. hospitals have one or more CyberKnife systems.