

Brachytherapy Follow Up & Post Op Follow Up

Post-operative Follow up

Follow up appointments can be done over the phone or in person. Please call our office to schedule that 2-4 weeks **after** your brachytherapy. If you are going on to have external radiation treatment, we will make a referral for your external beam radiation therapy at the time of the follow up appointment.

Post-operative CT scan

Within 4 weeks of your brachytherapy procedure, you will get a CT scan to evaluate the quality of the implant. The scan is not diagnostic or a determination if the implant was successful, therefore we will **NOT** call you with any results. The scan is, however, the only way to verify that the seeds were implanted properly to deliver the radiation correctly to the prostate. After the scan, I will receive the images and download them into my treatment planning computer. I will then contour the anatomy to verify the quality of the implant.

THIS IS NOT OPTIONAL!

We are required by the Radiological Health Branch of the State of California to evaluate the quality of the implant and report any inadequacies should an implant not meet acceptable standards. It is very important that you comply with this requirement so we can document that your implant results are up to required standards.

Once I complete this, your treatment with me is finished and you will continue to follow up with your urologist.

***For external radiation patients only:** For patients receiving external beam radiation therapy in addition to brachytherapy, we can typically use the simulation images from most of the facilities we refer to. You will **NOT** need an additional CT scan 4 weeks after brachytherapy.

Follow-up with your Urologist/PSA Test

Your PSA will drop significantly several months after completion of your brachytherapy procedure. It can take up to two years for the PSA to fall to its lowest level (nadir). You should continue to follow-up with your urologist and get your PSA checked, typically every 6 months, following completion of brachytherapy.

-Steven Kurtzman, M.D.

- Ankit Agarwal, MD