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Subject = Therapeutic Radiology

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①

Q1:- what are the side effect of
Therapeutic radiology on the
human body?

Ans:-

Side Effects of Therapeutic Radiology

Acute SIDE EFFECTS

- Nausea and vomiting
- Swelling
- Hair loss
- Skin damage
- Infertility
- intestinal Discomfort
- Mouth sores
- Throat and Stomach sores
- Damage To the Epithelial surfaces
- Fatigue

Late side effects

- Fibrosis
- Epilation
- Dryness
- cancer
- Heart diseases
- cognitive Decline
- Blood cancer
- Anemia
- LYMPHAEDEMA
- Radiation Proctitis
- cumulative side effect
- Effects on Reproductive system
- Effects on Pituitary system

important

(2)

Acute side effect① Nausea and Vomiting

- This is not a general side effect of radiation therapy, and mechanistically is associated only with treatment of the stomach or abdomen.
- It is commonly seen a few hours after treatment.
- The radiation therapy to certain nauseating producing structures in the head during treatment of certain head and neck tumors, most commonly the vestibules of the inner ears.
- As with any distressing treatment, some patients vomit immediately during radiotherapy.
- Nausea, for any reason can be treated with antiemetics.

② Damage to ~~the~~ the epithelial surfaces

- Epithelial surfaces may sustain damage from radiation therapy.
- Depending on the area being treated, this may include the skin, oral mucosa, pharyngeal, bowel, mucosa and ureter.
- The rates of onset of damage, and recovery from it depend upon the turnover rate of epithelial cells.
- Typically the skin starts to become pink and sores several weeks into treatment.

important

- ~~the~~ skin reactions tend to be worse in areas where there are natural folds

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in the skin such as underneath and female breast, behind the ear and in the groin.

② Mouth, throat and stomach sores

- If the head and neck area is treated, temporary soreness and ulceration commonly occur in the mouth and throat.
- If severe, this can affect swallowing, and the patient may need painkillers and nutritional support/food supplements.
- It is radiation during treatment of lung cancer.

④ Intestinal Discomfort

- The lower bowel may be treated directly with radiation (treatment of rectal or anal cancer).
- Typical symptoms are soreness, diarrhoea, and nausea.

⑤ Swelling

- As part of the general inflammation that occurs, swelling of soft tissues may occur cause problem during radiation therapy.
- The patient may receive steroids during radiation therapy to reduce swelling.

(6) Infertility

- The gonads are very sensitive to radiation.
- They may be unable to produce gametes following direct exposure to most normal treatment doses of radiation.
- Infertility can be efficiently avoided by sparing at least one gonad from radiation.

(7) Epilation: - Late side effect

- Epilation may occur on any hair bearing skin with doses above 1 Gy.
- only occurs within the radiation fields.
- Hairless may be permanent with a single dose of 10 Gy.

(8) Dryness

- The salivary glands and tear glands have radiation tolerance of about 30 Gy in 1 Gy fractions dose.
- Dry mouth (xerostomia) and dry eyes (xerophthalmia) can become irritating long term problems.
- And severely reduce the patient quality of life.

(9) Lymphedema

- Lymphedema, a condition of localized fluid retention and tissue, can result from damage to the lymphatic system sustain during

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radiation Therapy most commonly reported complication in breast radiation Therapy patients.

→ It is sugery to clear the axillary lymph nodes.

Fibrosis :-

→ Tissues which have been irradiation tend to become less elastic over time due to a diffuse scarring process.

Cancer

→ Radiation is a potential cause of cancer, and secondary malignancies are seen in a very small minority of patient.

→ usually less than 1/1000.

→ It usually occurs 20-30 years following treatment, although haematological malignancies may develop within 5-10 ~~to~~ years.

→ The cancer occurs within the treated of the patients.

Heart disease

→ Radiation has potentially excess risk of death from heart disease seen after some past breast cancer RT regimens.

Cognitive Decline

→ In cases of radiation applied to the head radiation Therapy may cause cognitive decline.

Important

(6)

→ Cognitive was especially appearance
in young children, blw ages
5 to 11.

Radiation proctitis

→ This can involve long-term effects on the rectum including bleeding, diarrhea and urgency and is associated with radiation therapy to pelvic organs.

→ radiation therapy can also cause radiation cystitis with the bladder is affected.

cumulative side effects

→ cumulative side effects from ~~the~~
this process should not be confused
the long term effects.

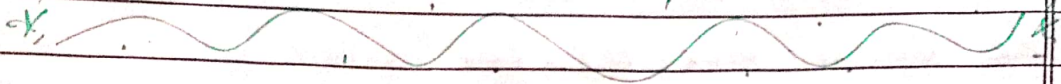
Effect on reproduction system

→ During the first two weeks after fertilization, radiation therapy is lethal but not teratogenic.

→ High dose of radiation during pregnancy cause and intellectual disability, ↑ risk of children leukemia and other tumors in the offspring.

Effect on Pituitary System

→ Hypopituitarism commonly develop after radiation therapy for sellar and parasellar neoplasms, extrasellar brain tumors head and neck tumors, and following whole body irradiation for system malignancies.



Q2:-

Ans:- Linear accelerator

→ A medical Linear accelerator (LINAC) customizes high energy x-rays or electrons to conform to a tumor's shape and destroy cancer cells while sparing surrounding normal tissues.

→ It features several built-in safety measures to ensure that it will deliver the dose as prescribed and is routinely checked by a medical physicist to ensure it is working properly.

→ If you're scheduled for radiation therapy using a LINAC, your radiation oncologist will collaborate with a radiation dosimetrist and a medical physicist to develop a treatment plan for you.

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→ They will double check this plan before treatment begins and implement quality assurance procedures to ensure that each treatment is delivered in the exact same scanner.

How does the equipment work?

→ The linear accelerator uses microwave technology to accelerate electrons in a part of the accelerator called the "wave guide," then allows these electrons to collide with a heavy metal target to produce high-energy x-rays.

→ These high energy x-rays are shaped of the as they exist the machine to conform to the shape of the patient tumor and the customized beam is directed to the patient tumor.

→ The beam is usually shaped by a multileaf collimator that is incorporated into the head of the machine.

→ The patient lies into on a moveable treatment couch and lasers are used to make sure the patient is in the proper position.

→ The treatment couch can move in the many directions including up, down, right, left, in and out.
(p.f.o)

→ The beam comes out of a part of the ~~to~~ accelerator called a gantry, which can be delivered to the tumor from many angles by rotating the gantry and moving the treatment couch.

What is this equipment used for?

→ A medical linear accelerator (LINAC) is the device most commonly used for external beam radiation treatments for patient with cancer.

→ It delivers high energy x-rays or electrons to the region of the patient tumor.

→ These treatments can be designed in such a way that they destroy the cancer cells while sparing the surrounding normal tissues.

→ LINAC is used to treat all body sites, using conventional techniques, (IMRT), (VMAT), (IGRT), (SRS), (SBRT).

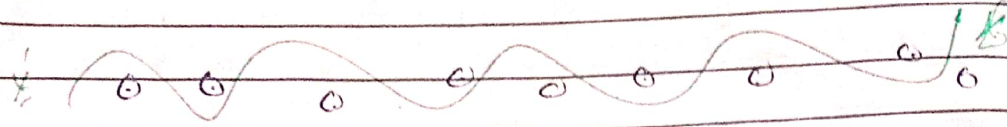
Who operates this equipment

→ As the patient's radiation oncologist prescribes the appropriate treatment volume & dosage.

→ The medical physicist and the dosimetrist determine how to deliver the prescribed dose & calculate the amount of time it

will take the accelerator to deliver that dose.

→ Radiation Therapists operate the linear accelerator and give patients their daily radiation treatments.



Q7:-

Ans:- Photon-tissue interactions

→ Three interactions describe photon absorption in tissues.

- ① Photoelectric effect
- ② Compton effect
- ③ pair ~~fact~~ production

Photoelectric effect:-

→ In this process, an incoming photon undergoes a collision with a tightly bound electron.

→ This photon transfers practically all of its energy to the electron and ceases to exist.

→ The electron departs with most of the energy from the photon and begins to ionize surrounding molecules.

→ This interaction depends on the energy of the incoming photon, as well as the atomic number of the tissues.

Important

- (11)
- The lower the energy and the higher the atomic number, the more likely that a photoelectric effect will take place.
 - An example of the interaction in practice can be seen on a diagnostic x-ray film.
 - Since the atomic number of bone is 60% higher than that of soft tissue, bone is seen with much more contrast and detail than is soft tissue.
 - The energy range in which the photoelectric effect predominates in tissue is about 10-25 keV.

Compton effect :-

- The Compton effect is the most important photon-tissue interaction for the treatment of cancer.
- In this case, a photon collides with a "free electron" i.e., one that is not tightly bound to the atom.
- Unlike the photoelectric effect, it is scattered.
- The photon ~~can~~ can then continue to undergo additional interactions, energy given to it by the photon.
- The probability of a Compton interaction is inversely proportional

Important

to the energy of the incoming photon and is independent of the atomic number of the material.

- When one takes an image of the atomic tissues using photons in the energy range in which the Compton effect dominates ($\sim 25 \text{ keV} - 2.5 \text{ MeV}$), bone and soft tissue interface are barely distinguishable.
- It is result of the atomic number independence.
- The Compton effect is the most common interaction occurring clinically as most radiation treatments are performed at energy level of about 6-20 MeV.

Gray

- The basic unit of radiation absorbed is the amount of energy (joules) absorbed per unit mass (kg).
- This unit, known as the gray (Gy), has replaced the unit of rad used in the past ($100 \text{ rad} = 1 \text{ Gy}$).

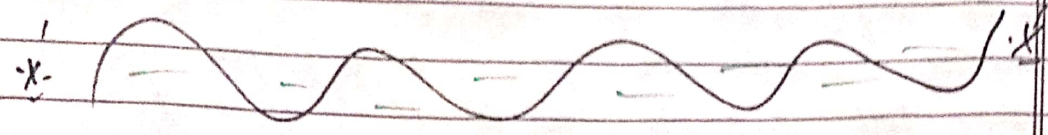
Percentage depth dose

→ This dose absorbed by tissues due to these interactions can be measured & plotted to form a percentage depth dose

Important

curve.

→ As energy ↑, the Penetrative ability of the beam ↑ and the skin dose ↓.



Q:-

Ans:- Brachytherapy :-

- Brachytherapy also called internal radiation therapy.
- Brachytherapy is delivered by placing radiation source (S) inside or next to the area requiring treatment.
- Brachytherapy is commonly used as an effective treatment for cervical, prostate, breast, and skin cancers and can also be used to treat tumours in many other body sites.
- As with stereotactic radiation, Brachytherapy treatments are often known by their brand names.
- For example, brand names for breast cancer brachytherapy treatments include SAVI, Mammosite, and Contura.
- Brand names of prostate cancer include Proxcelan, Theraseed, and I-seed.

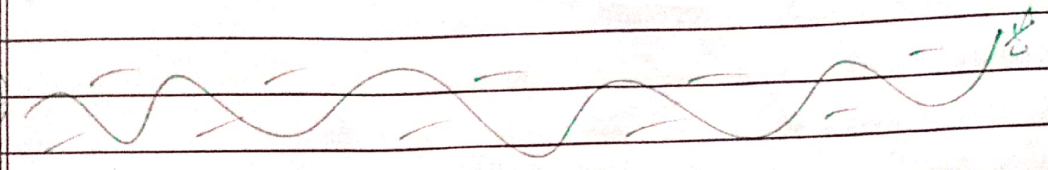
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- In Brachytherapy, radiation source are precisely placed directly at the side of the cancerous tumor.
- This means that the irradiation only affects a much localization area - exposure to radiation of healthy tissues further away from the source is reduced.
- These characteristics of Brachytherapy provide advantages over external beam radiation therapy.
- The tumor can be treated with very high doses of localized radiation, whilst reducing the probability of unnecessary damage to surrounding healthy tissues.
- A course of Brachytherapy can often be completed in less time than other radiation therapy techniques.
- As one example of the localized nature of breast brachytherapy, the SAVI device delivers the radiation dose through multiple catheters, each of which can be individually controlled.
- Brachytherapy is the term used to describe radiation treatment in which the radiation source is in contact with external beam radiotherapy, in which the radiation source is 80-100cm away from the patient.

important

→ In brachytherapy, dose distribution is almost totally dependent on the inverse square law because the source is usually within the tumor volume.

→ B/c of this inverse square dependence, proper placement of radiation source is crucial.



Q5:-

Ans:- Volumetric modulated arc Therapy (VMAT)

→ This advanced form of IMRT can cut the time needed to deliver a radiation dosage from 20 minutes to 5 to 7 minutes.

→ Like IMRT, it lets your radiation oncology team conform the beams to the shape of your tumor & ↓ strength where needed to cause less harm to healthy tissues.

→ Volumetric (VMAT) is a new radiation technique, which can achieve highly conformal dose distributions on target volume coverage and sparing of normal tissues.

→ The specificity of this technique is to modify three parameters during the treatment.

important

→ VMAT delivers radiation by rotating gantry changing speed & shape of the beam with a (MLC) and fluence output rate of the medical linear accelerator.

→ VMAT also has potential to give additional advantages in patient treatment, such as reduced delivery time of radiation. Compared with conventional static field (IMRT).

(i) Particle Therapy

→ In Particle Therapy, energetic ionizing particles are directed at the target tumor.

→ The dose ↑ while the particle penetrates the tissues, up to maximum that occurs near the end of the particle's range, and it then drops to zero.

→ The advantage of this energy deposition profile is that less energy is deposited into the healthy tissues surrounding the target tissues.

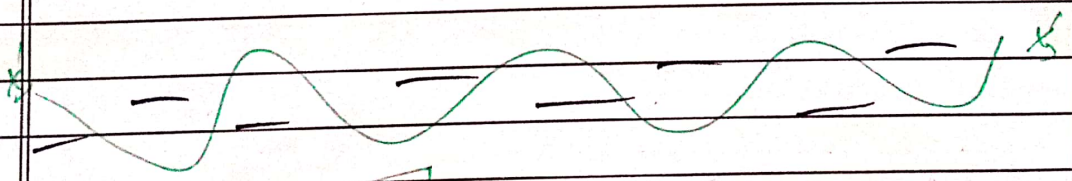
(ii) Auger Therapy

→ Auger Therapy makes use of a very high dose of ionizing radiation in situ that provides molecular modifications at an atomic

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Scale

- AT differs from conventional radiation therapy in several aspects.
- It neither relies upon radioactive nuclei to cause cellular radiation damage at a cellular dimension, nor ~~uses~~ engages multiple external pencil-beams from diff directions to zero-in to deliver a dose to the target area with reduced dose outside the targeted tissues / organ locations.
- Instead, the in situ delivery of very high dose at the molecular level using AT aims for situ molecular modifications involving molecular breakages and molecular re-arrangements such as change of stacking structures as well as metabolic related to the side molecule structure.



THE END

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