Disclaimer

These guidelines were based on best available evidence and expert opinion and were created by the Yale School of Medicine Department of Therapeutic Radiology faculty. Some elements of this guideline are based on pre-publication figures and tables from Zaorsky et al. Adv Radiat Oncol 2020.

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RADS FRAMEWORK

(Zaorsky et al. Adv Rad Oncol. 2020. In Press)

Remote Visits

Use of telemedicine (phone/video) in place of in person visits.

Does patient need to be physically seen to determine treatment recommendation?

Can treatment recommendation be safely deferred?

Which patients should be prioritized if finite bandwidth of providers for remote visits?

Avoid Radiation

Avoid treatment of patients where evidence suggests little to no benefit of treatment.

Does radiation offer significant improvement in quantity or quality of life?

Are there treatments or alternatives to radiation therapy that provide similar benefits and can be delivered in lower risk settings?

Defer Radiation

Defer treatment start for maximal safe time as appropriate.

If radiation is indicated, can it be safely deferred?

Are treatments available that would allow for safe deferment of radiation therapy?

Shorten Radiation

Use the shortest safe form of treatment if treatment necessary.

Can radiation be delivered without anesthesia or other invasive procedures?

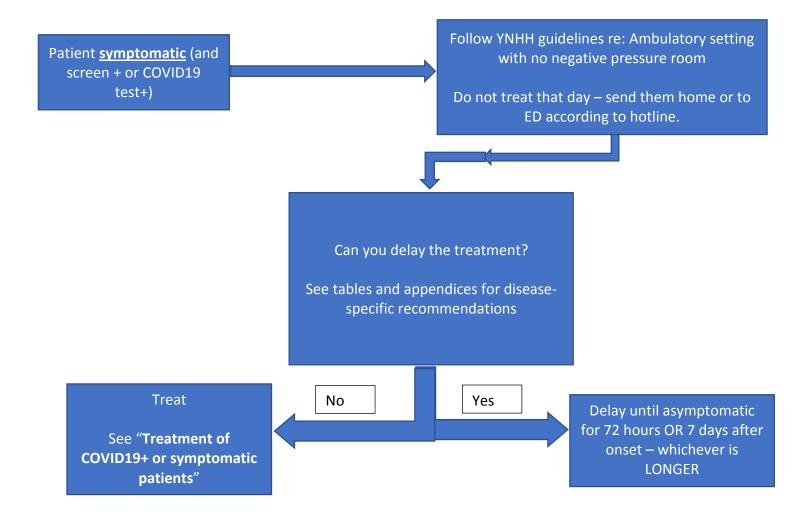
What radiation fractionation scheme limits the number of visits?

Questions to guide recommendations:

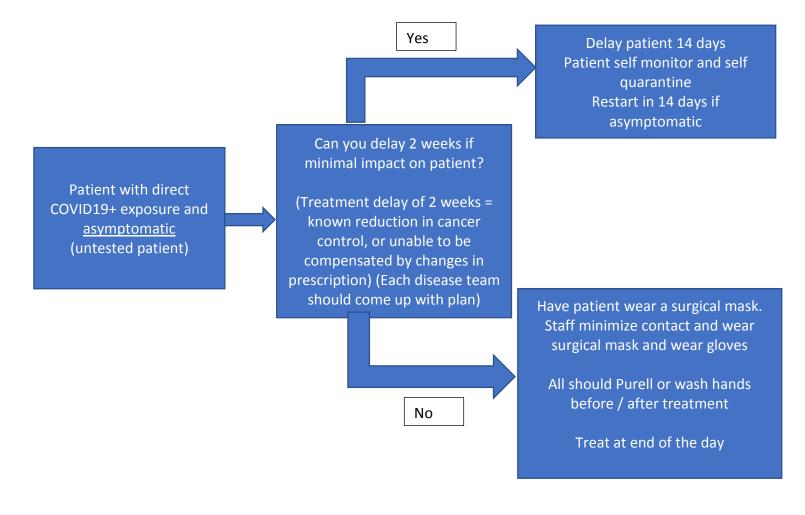
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Principle:

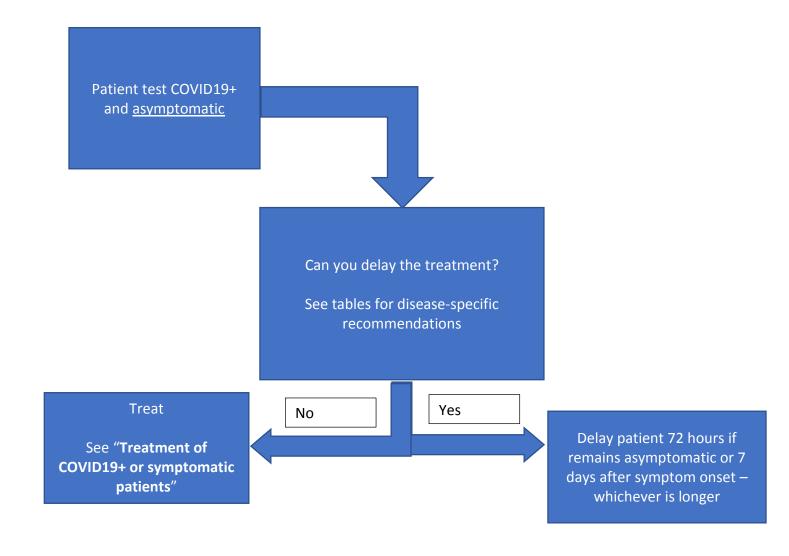
[SYMPTOMATIC PATIENTS AND SCREEN+] or [SYMPTOMATIC AND COVID19 TEST+]



ASYMPTOMATIC PATIENTS WITH DIRECT EXPOSURE



COVID19+ AND ASYMPTOMATIC



Approach to palliative treatment

Life threatening <u>or</u> morbid without immediate treatment	Strategy
ininediate treatment	
and	
patient overall survival expected to be >	
3 months?	
Yes	Treat single fraction if possible.
Acceptable indications for treatment	8 Gy x 1 for pain or bony lesion
while symptomatic or COVID19+:	10 Gy x 1 for bleeding if not involving
Cord compression	spine
Microvascular bleeding that is <u>life</u>	
threatening (note: named vessel / large	If single fraction not possible,
vessel bleeds do not respond well to radiotherapy)	hypofractionate as much as possible
	Brain metastases can be deferred per
Grade 4 or 5 per SVC algorithm (see SVC	algorithm, and treated with single
algorithm)	fraction gamma knife
	For endobronchial obstruction consider 8
	Gy x 1 or 17 Gy in 2 weekly fractions
No	Maximize medical therapy. Treat after
	algorithm allows

^{*}Ventilated patients who absolutely require radiation treatment should be discussed with physician. This should be an extremely rare and unlikely occurrence given the amount of staff required and the infection control risk that will be caused by the movement of a ventilated patient through the hospital to the radiation unit.

Approach to curative intent therapy

Disease site	Criteria for delay	Mitigation strategy
Prostate cancer	All intermediate risk patients with	It patients delayed 3 weeks
(intact)	localized disease undergoing	consider additional 1-3
	moderately hypofractionated or	fractions if standard
	standard fractionated treatment can	fractionation (1.8-2.0 Gy). If
	be delayed up to 2 weeks without	hypofractionated, no
	mitigation.	mitigation required.
	If delayed up to 3 weeks see	SpaceOAR disintegration
	mitigation strategy	after 12 weeks may require replanning or additional
	For intermediate risk patients	CBCT scrutiny, but does not
	undergoing SBRT see mitigation	by itself require patients to
	strategy	be treated while COVID19+
		or symptomatic especially if
	If treatment has reached >72 Gy can	fiducial markers have been
	complete therapy if a delay over 2	placed
	weeks is likely	
		Patients undergoing SBRT
	See appendix for further	should be considered for
	recommendations	increased dose per fraction
		(8 Gy per fraction) or
		completing with treatment
		every day to minimize
		treatment length.
		See appendix for further
		recommendations
Prostate cancer	All patients can be delayed up to 3	If patients delayed 3 weeks
(postop)	weeks	consider additional fraction
		to total 72 Gy
	If treatment has reached 64 Gy	
	(salvage/adjuvant) can complete	See appendix for further
	therapy if a delay over 2 weeks is likely	recommendations
	likely	
	See appendix for further	
	recommendations	
Bladder cancer	All patients can be delayed up to 2	Can use the 2 week break for
	weeks without mitigation	a second look cystoscopy if

		concerns about disease progression
Breast cancer	Whole breast radiotherapy [WBRT] (Impact of treatment [TX] break is low)	Do not change WBRT dose in the setting of a TX break (continue original hypofractionated or conventional TX). Boost portion can be adjusted as follows: - ASSUMING SEQUENTIAL BOOST AFTER WBRT: • IF NO BOOST ORIGINALLY INTENDED, ADD BOOST AFTER WBRT (10 Gy/5 fx conventional fractionation [CF] or 10 Gy/4 fx hypofractionated [HF]) - If initially plan DID have a sequential boost and treatment interuption: • Can add additional 2 Gy fractions up to 66 Gy (CF) or additional 2.5 Gy fraction to 52.55 Gy (HF) If original intended dose was 66 Gy (high risk patient), can increase dose to 70 Gy/2 Gy Fx (CF) and consider reducing the volume to the highest risk region.
	(see: Yale Breast Team COVID-19 Clinical Patient Guidelines)	(see: Yale Breast Team COVID-19 Clinical Patient Guidelines)

Breast cancer	Chest wall RT (Impact of treatment break is low)	Similar to above, but substitute lumpectomy cavity PTV for mastectomy scar PTV (see: Yale Breast Team
	(see: Yale Breast Team COVID-19 Clinical Patient Guidelines)	COVID-19 Clinical Patient Guidelines)
Breast cancer	RNI (SCV, ax, IM) with WBRT/PMRT (Impact of treatment break is low)	Dose max of 50 Gy in 2 Gy fractions (unless boosting IM nodes)
	(see: Yale Breast Team COVID-19 Clinical Patient Guidelines)	(see: Yale Breast Team COVID-19 Clinical Patient Guidelines)
Esophagus cancer	Defer patients who have received 10 Gy or less; deliver definitive dose later	Start induction chemotherapy to defer new starts
	Continue treatment for definitive CRT patients at >10 Gy if at all possible Reduce dose for pre-operative	For patients delayed after 10 Gy or less, escalate dose by 4-10 Gy when completing treatment
	patients to 41.4 Gy	
Pancreatic cancer	Delay and convert to hypofractionated plan	Continue chemotherapy to defer new starts as much as possible
		Utilize SBRT rather than CRT
		Convert to hypofractionated plan to complete delayed courses
Rectal cancer	Delay and convert to hypofractionated / short course plan	Start FOLFOX to delay all new starts
		Convert delayed patients to short course plan (equivalent of 5 Gy x5)

Anal cancer	Delay patients who have received 10 Gy or less; deliver definitive dose later Continue treatment for definitive CRT patients at >10 Gy if at all possible	Consider induction chemo to delay new starts For patients delayed after 10 Gy or less, escalate dose by 4-10 Gy when completing treatment
Lung cancer - Patients already on treatment who already has received more than approximately 15-20 Gy):	Patients who may be OK for a break or discontinuation: -palliative -oligomets -consolidative RT or PCI for extensive-stage SCLC -PCI for limited-stage SCLC -postop for incidental N2 NSCLC Patients who need to continue if at all possible: -definitive chemo-RT for locally advanced NSCLC (top priority) -definitive chemo-RT for limited-stage SCLC (absolute benefit of RT is lower here than for NSCLC, but if we're doing it then we want to keep total treatment duration as short as possible) -SBRT for early-stage NSCLC (especially if biopsy-proven, growing fast, age on the younger side, fewer comorbidities, fewer number of previous lung cancers) See lung cancer recommendations	See lung cancer recommendations
Lung cancer - Patients not on treatment yet or who have received less than 15-20 Gy so far (threshold set here	-early-stage lung cancers especially if not biopsied, growing slowly, lepidic adeno, older age or more	See lung cancer recommendations

since it may still be possible to deliver a definitive dose in the future if interrupted this early in treatment):	comorbidities (at increased risk of COVID complications), and higher number of previous lung cancers (suggesting they may easily develop more) -oligomets -consolidative RT or PCI for extensive-stage SCLC -PCI for limited-stage SCLC -postop for incidental N2 NSCLC See lung cancer recommendations	
Head and neck cancer	Discuss with attending. Head and neck cancer treatment break or deferral may lead to reduced tumor control given rapid tumor doubling time. See head and neck recommendations	Consider mitigating with additional radiation dose after treatment or addition of chemotherapy. See head and neck recommendations
Cervical cancer	Discuss with attending. Cervical cancer radiation treatment break or deferral may lead to reduced tumor control given rapid tumor doubling time.	Consider mitigating with additional radiation dose after treatment or addition of chemotherapy.
Endometrial, high- intermedate risk or stage II, brachytherapy alone	Brachytherapy initiation can be delayed, but should start no later than 9 weeks post hysterectomy; if already started on treatment, then up to 14 days between fractions is acceptable	Discuss with attending. No default mitigation needed
Endometrial, high intermediate risk or stage II, pelvic RT alone	Pelvic radiotherapy can be delayed, but should start no later than 8 weeks post hysterectomy; consider if brachytherapy alone is a reasonable substitute for these patients after weighing risks and benefits	Discuss with attending. No default mitigation needed

Endometrial, early stage, high risk histology (MMMT, UPSC, CC, DD/UD), brachy + chemo	Brachytherapy initiation can be delayed, but should start no later than 9 weeks post hysterectomy; if already started on treatment, then up to 14 days between fractions is acceptable.	Discuss with attending. No default mitigation needed
Endometrial, advanced stage, high risk, pelvic RT + chemo	Unless there are positive margins, these patients may receive all 6 cycles of Carbo-Taxol up-front and then delay the pelvic RT until after all the chemotherapy has completed. Pelvic RT can start 3-4 weeks from last chemo.	Discuss with attending. No default mitigation needed
Low grade glioma	Initiation of radiation therapy can and should be delayed at initial diagnosis	Discuss with attending. No default mitigation needed
High grade glioma	Treatment decisions must be individualized, delay may not be feasible in patients without significant resection, with neurologic symptoms, or with significant steroid requirement.	If treatment breaks occur due to illness, conversion to hypo-fractionation can be considered upon return in order to complete the course in a similar time frame.
		If treatment breaks occur due to access, temodar should be continued and dosing (daily vs 5days/week) coordinated with neuro- oncology.
Meningioma and Schwannoma	Initiation of radiation therapy can and should be delayed at initial diagnosis	
Spine tumors	Low grade tumors (ependymomas, schwannomas, meningiomas) or surgically resected tumors can be	Patients undergoing potentially curative therapy may need treatment through infection and will need to be

COVID19 Yale Radiation Oncology Flowchart – Version March 20, 2020. 12:00 PM

delayed for 4 weeks and re- evaluated	assessed on a case by case basis
Primary or metastatic tumors causing neurologic symptoms should proceed with treatment	

Head and Neck OR Cervical cancers - additional guidelines

Given the abundance of data showing treatment delays or protracted treatment times results in significantly reduced cancer outcomes for head and neck cancer OR cervical cancer, any treatment delay/interruption will require thorough evaluation.

For patients that have NOT started treatment, but have COVID+ test, or suspicion, treatment start should be delayed until testing results negative, or asymptomatic for 72 hours, or 7 days after onset (whichever is longer). For certain patients, (ie larynx), at risk for airway compromise if long delay in start, starting treatment under COVID+ protocol may be necessary or other multidisciplinary input regarding alternate treatment options.

For patients that are MID-treatment, treatment interruption more than 7 days would preferably be prevented.

- If SYMPTOMATIC, patient can be delayed 1 week to see if symptoms abate, and then treated as per COVID+ protocol.
- If Asymptomatic, but COVID+, would prefer to treat as long as asymptomatic, per COVID+ protocol.
- For a delay of more than 1 week, altered fractionation once patient is safe (clinically stable) to resume treatment, or potentially additional fractions can be considered once treatment resumes.

In general interruptions of greater than 1 week are to be avoided. If due to clinical instability, patient unable to receive treatment due to infection, attending will determine whether to resume treatment once stable, change treatment plan, or coordinate alternate treatment with multi-D team as appropriate

<u>Lung cancer – additional recommendations to limiting fractionation as much as possible:</u>

SBRT:

- Peripheral tumors amenable to 54 Gy in 3 fractions: continue to prescribe 54 Gy in 3 fractions, or consider 30-34 Gy in 1 fraction (RTOG 0915 regimen)
- Peripheral tumors for whom you would otherwise prescribe 50-55 Gy in 5 fractions rather than 54 Gy in 3 fractions (i.e. close to chest wall, multiple isos, old frail patient, etc): consider prescribing 45 Gy in 3 fractions aiming for 150% hotspot (Nordic regimen)
- Central tumors: preferably enroll in DD3 trial of 45 Gy in 3 fractions with the normal hotspots of 115-140, but if not trial candidate then would do 50-55 Gy in 5 fractions (would prefer 3-fraction not to be done off-protocol for central patients since we don't know for sure if this is safe yet). FYI DD3 is remaining open for now, but I would defer the optional blood draw component
- Ultracentral or very large tumors: do what you might normally do to be safe but give a definitive dose (i.e. 60-72 Gy in 15-18 fractions vs. 60 Gy in 8 fractions)

LA-NSCLC:

- Minimize dose escalation above 60 Gy in 30 fractions (RTOG 0617 regimen)
- If no chemo, then consider 52.5-60 Gy in 15 fractions

LS-SCLC:

- Consider 40-42 Gy in 15 fractions rather than 45 Gy in 30 BID fractions or 60-66 Gy in 30-33 fractions

<u>Prostate cancer – additional recommendations</u>

(From Zaorsky et al. Adv Rad Oncol. 2020. To be published)

	Visits	its	Si	Simulation/Preparation	ation	lf 1	If Treatment is Warranted During Pandemic	ted During Panden	mic
Disease State	New Consults*	RVs*	Fiducials**	Rectal Spacers**	Simulation scans	Preferred Treatment During Pandemic	Brachytherapy***	EBRT type	ADT
Localized/Locally advanced	ly advanced								-
Very low/low	Delay until safe	Delay until safe	Delay until safe	Delay until safe	Delay until safe	AS	Delay until safe	Delay until safe	Do not use
FIR	Delay 3 months	Delay until safe	Delay until safe	Delay until safe	Delay until safe	AS	Delay until safe	Delay until safe	Do not use
UIR	Delay 1-3 months	Delay 4 months	Consider if performing SBRT	Consider if performing SBRT	Delay up to 4- 6 months if ADT given	RT+ADT	Do not use	5 fx (preferred) or 20 fx	Can use ADT to delay RT 4-6 months. Consider 6 month depot
High/very high	Delay up to 1 month	Delay 3 months	Consider if performing SBRT	If experienced to place, consider only if performing SBRT	Delay 4-6 months if ADT given	RT+ADT	Do not use	5 fx (preferred) or 20 fx	Can use ADT to delay RT 4-6 months. Consider 6 month depot
N+	Delay 2-4 weeks	Delay 3 months	Consider if performing SBRT	Not recommended	Delay 4-6 months if ADT given	RT+ADT	Do not use	5 fx or 20 fx	Can use ADT to delay RT 4-6 months. Consider 6 month depot
Post-Prostatectomy	omy								
Adjuvant	Strongly consider use of early salvage RT	Delay 4 months	1	1	Delay up to allowing treatment 120 days after surgery	RT +/- ADT		20 fx	Can use ADT to delay RT 4-6 months. Consider 6 month depot
Salvage	Delay up to 1 month	Delay 3 months	1	1	Delay depending on PSA level and	RT +/- ADT	1	20 fx	Can use ADT to delay RT 4-6 months.
					doubling time				Consider 6 month depot

Yale Breast Team COVID-19 Clinical Patient Guidelines

V.2

Low-risk patients:

- Luminal patients
- Age >65-70
- Patients HR+ who have been started on endocrine therapy
- Small, node negative tumors
- DCIS (particularly GI/II)

Higher risk patients:

- Locally advanced
- Node +
- TNBC
- Palliative (pain or other symptoms)
- Surgical margin positive or gross ECE (> 2 mm)
- Neoadjuvant chemotherapy with residual disease
- DCIS GIII in a young patient <50 yrs

Radiation Oncology attending to screen all incoming consults and follow-ups for their clinic Determine if new patient needs:

- 1) Immediate consult-----Palliative/inflammatory etc. (need to start RT)
- 2) Defer consultation 6-8 weeks- post-operative /post-chemo (to start RT within 12 weeks of last treatment)
- 3) Defer consultation 12-16 weeks---no chemo, on endocrine therapy, luminal pts, low oncotype dx score (start RT 16 weeks or more, low-risk, on endocrine therapy and/or omission of RT being considered)

^{*}HER2+ patients should be individualized based on other factors such as nodal involvement, tumor size, receipt of chemo, HR+ vs. HR- etc.

^{*}Special attention should be paid for individualized decision making for RT timing vulnerable populations, such as small TNBC in women >65, with multidisciplinary discussion.

^{*}Ideally, aim to start RT <10-12 wks from surgery/chemo for higher risk patients and up to 16 weeks for lower risk patients on endocrine therapy

^{*}Emphasize no survival benefit in elderly population for omission of WBRT (>65-70) for patients willing to take endocrine therapy

^{*}Medical Oncology and Surgery to initiate up-front discussion for endocrine therapy in HR+ pts and get Oncotype Dx score early-so that RT consultations can be deferred for these patients.

^{*}Perform breast examination at time of simulation

*For any patients requiring consultations, video teleconsultations can be performed by attending MD (watch video and follow instructions)

Recommendations for patient interruptions:

	ations for patient in		
Breast	Breast-only treatment	Low	 Do not change the whole-breast dose in the setting of a treatment break (continue the original 42.56 Gy in 16 fractions or 50 Gy in 25 fractions). The boost portion of the treatment dose gets adjusted as follows: Initial treatment plan did not include a sequential boost to the lumpectomy cavity PTV: 10 Gy in 5 fractions boost. Initial treatment plan included a sequential boost to the lumpectomy cavity PTV: Add one 2 Gy fraction per week missed up to 66 Gy; alternatively, a 2.3 Gy × 5 boost. If the intended boost was to 66 Gy, increase the dose up to 70 Gy, and consider reducing the volume to the highest risk region.
	Chest wall after mastectomy	Low	Similar to above, but substitute lumpectomy cavity PTV for mastectomy scar PTV.
	Regional nodal (supraclavicular, axillary, internal mammary chain) with breast or chest wall	Low	Dose is adjusted to a maximum of 50 Gy in 2 Gy fractions.

From: Gay HA, Santiago R, Gil B, Remedios C, Montes PJ, López-Araujo J, et al. Lessons Learned from Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico: Practical Measures to Mitigate the Impact of a Catastrophic Natural Disaster on Radiation Oncology Patients. Practical radiation oncology. 2019;9(5):305-21.

Yale Version:

tale v	ersion:		
Cancer	Clinical Scenario	Impact of Gap	Recommendations
Breast	WBRT	Low	Do not change WBRT dose in the setting of a TX break (continue original hypofractionated or conventional TX). Boost portion can be adjusted as follows: - ASSUMING SEQUENTIAL BOOST AFTER WBRT: • IF NO BOOST ORIGINALLY INTENDED, ADD BOOST AFTER WBRT (10 Gy/5 fx CF or 10 Gy/4 fx HF) - If initially plan DID have a sequential boost and treatment interuption: • Can add additional 2 Gy fractions up to 66 Gy (CF) or additional 2.5 Gy fraction to 52.55 Gy (HF) • If original intended dose was 66 Gy (high risk patient), can increase dose to 70 Gy/2 Gy Fx (CF) and consider reducing the volume to the highest risk region.
	Chest Wall RT	Low	Similar to above, but substitute lumpectomy cavity PTV for mastectomy scar PTV

RNI (SCV, ax, IM)	Low	Dose max of 50 Gy in 2 Gy fractions (unless boosting IM
with WBRT/PMRT	Low	nodes)

^{*}We can further discuss as group as interruptions occur- may consider increasing boost dose to 14-16Gy (CF) or additional single fraction 12.5 Gy (HF)

Boost considerations during this period should be personalized (not routinely delivered)-Consider adoption of the following: (combination of ASTRO WBI and our institutional policy):

- Consider omitting tumor bed boost for:
 - All patients >65-70 yrs(DCIS and invasive)
 - Low grade DCIS in >50 yrs
 - Any patient who meets all of the following criteria:
 - >50 yrs
 - hormone receptor + (agrees to take endocrine therapy)
 - Grade I/II
 - widely negative (≥2 mm) margins
- Continue tumor bed boost for:
 - All patients under the age of 50 yrs after BCT (DCIS and invasive)
 - All inflammatory breast cancer
 - o All NAC patients with residual disease in the breast after BCS
 - High grade tumors (invasive or DCIS) between ages of 51-65/70 yrs.
 - Patients with focally positive margins

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^{*}Of course, as with all guidelines, individualized decision-making is required and should incorporate and be sensitive to patient preferences and values regarding the modest expected disease control benefit compared with the modest increase in treatment-related burden and toxicity associated with boost RT.

Superior Vena Cava (SVC) Syndrome grading (Yu JB et al. JTO. 2008;3:811-4). Estimated

Incidence

a

Grade	Category	(%)	Definition ^a
0	Asymptomatic	10	Radiographic superior vena cava obstruction in the absence of symptoms
1	Mild	25	Edema in head or neck (vascular distention), cyanosis, plethora
2	Moderate	50	Edema in head or neck with functional impairment (mild dysphagia, cough, mild or moderate impairment of head, jaw or eyelid movements, visual disturbances caused by ocular edema)
3	Severe	10	Mild or moderate cerebral edema (headache, dizziness) or mild/moderate laryngeal edema or diminished cardiac reserve (syncope after bending)
4	Life- threatening	5	Significant cerebral edema (confusion, obtundation) or significant laryngeal edema (stridor) or significant hemodynamic compromise (syncope without precipitating factors, hypotension, renal insufficiency)
5	Fatal	<1	Death

Each sign or symptom must be thought due to superior vena cava obstruction and the effects of cerebral or laryngeal edema or effects on cardiac function. Symptoms caused by other factors (e.g., vocal cord paralysis, compromise of the tracheobronchial tree, or heart as a result of mass effect) should be not be considered as they are due to mass effect on other organs and not superior vena cava obstruction.

Red box: Do not treat until COVID19 test negative, or asymptomatic 72 hours or 7 days after symptom onset- whichever is longer.

All others – URGENT STENT recommended, or thrombolytics if thrombus. If no stent possible, proceed to treatment.

<u>Treatment of screening positive or test positive COVID19+ symptomatic patients</u>

General radiation planning guidelines

Minimize fractions as much as possible. Use single fraction treatment for palliation. Hypofractionate as much as possible.

Staff safety guidelines

Treatment performed at end of day after all machines have stopped treating. Minimum staffing required. If N95 mask required, will require rapid fit testing with mask.

Patients should call ahead before coming to department. To reduce contact, banding of patient arm is not required – escorting staff will carry the patient ID band. Verbal check in and time out at treatment machine still required. All staff that comes into direct contact with patient should wear PPE, including front desk staff. Patient time in the department should absolutely be minimized. If patients have to wait, they should be placed in the previously designated isolation room with door closed. After patient leaves the isolation room the door to the room should be closed for an hour and terminal cleaned. Patient should not be waiting in waiting rooms or any rooms with carpeting or non-impervious upholstered chairs.

Given recent changes (3/18/20) in Personal Protective Equipment guidelines for the acute care setting, given the proximity of patients to therapy staff, **Modified Airborne/Contact** precautions should be used.

- 1) Alert therapy and nursing leadership
- 2) Alert environmental services leadership
- 3) After 5pm, after hours with absolute minimum staff
- 4) Mask patient with surgical mask. For patients with aquaplast immobilization if the patient can tolerate it, place mask on the aquaplast mask as well.
- 5) All staff engaging in direct patient care should wear PPE (gown, glove, face shield, N95 mask with eye protection*) All staff watch video how to don/doff
- 6) Radiation therapy staff wipes down all radiation equipment with disinfectant wipes
- 7) Close LINAC door for 1 hour
- 8) Call environmental services and alert them
- 9) Terminal clean linac before treating next day

^{*}If your hospital system can sustain this use. Surgical mask with eye protection is acceptable if N95 not released for ambulatory use.