LOW DOSE RADIATION THERAPY (LDRT)

FOR INFLAMMATION CAUSED BY OSTEOARTHRITIS



OVERVIEW:

Low-dose radiation therapy (LDRT) has been used for the treatment of conditions such as osteoarthritis (OA), with improvement in pain and mobility. LDRT uses low-dose X-rays to decrease inflammation associated with OA. For example, LDRT improves pain in approximately three out of four patients. Improvement may first be seen within two weeks, with continued improvement noted over three to six months following treatment.

If there is no pain response at eight weeks, a second identical treatment course may be recommended, with approximately 50% of patients responding.

Potential side effects include temporary redness of the skin in the treatment area. There is a rare theoretical risk of secondary malignancy in the treatment area many years in the future; however, there has never been a documented case of cancer resulting from LDRT used for OA.

POSSIBLE PATIENT QUESTIONS:

How many treatments and for how long?

Six non-consecutive treatments, each lasting approximately 20 minutes. The total visit time is typically about 30 minutes per treatment, from check-in to check-out.

Side effects?

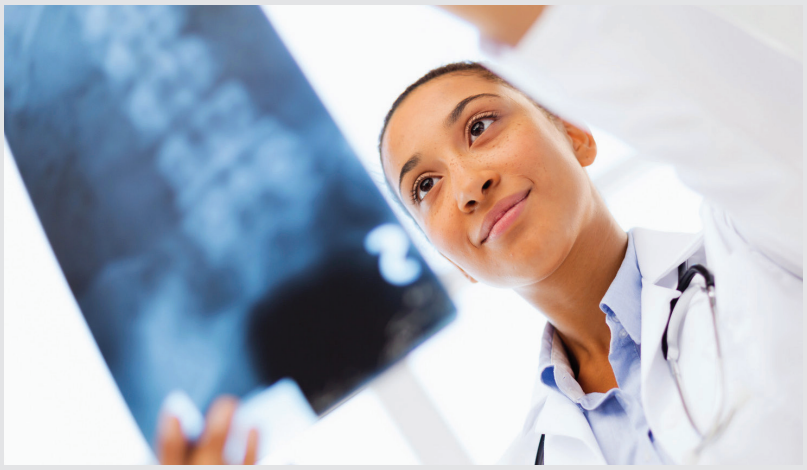
Most patients experience no side effects. LDRT is a low-dose therapy focused on the specific OA site.

Patient follow-up?

Patients will be followed up at approximately two months to assess reduction in pain and inflammation.

Limitations from therapy?

Patients may continue all current medications, but may choose to reduce the use of pain medications if improvement in OA symptoms occurs.



Karmanos | McLaren

MHCC-590 (03.26)