

# Radiation Therapy:

## What to Expect

### What is the treatment schedule?

Many patients undergo radiation therapy (RT) on an outpatient basis. This means that if they are medically stable, there is usually no need to keep them overnight. Depending on the type of treatment being given, your pet may need RT to be given as often as five days per week (Monday through Friday) for three to five consecutive weeks.

### When does my pet need to be in the hospital?

Generally, patients are dropped off each morning between 7:30 and 8:00 a.m. Then, after the day's treatment is done, and the patient has fully recovered from anesthesia, we call with an update, and to schedule a time for them to be picked up. This can be as early as 9:30 a.m., or as late as about 6:00 p.m., but generally is around 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

### Can I board my pet in your hospital while they're undergoing treatment?

Please know that if it's a service you would like to take advantage of, we are able to board most patients in the hospital from Monday through Friday. This adds approximately \$50 per night, for most pets. We can also provide care over the weekend for patients that have a medical need. However, we cannot offer general boarding services over the weekend; this is only available from 7:30 a.m. Monday morning through 6:00 p.m. Friday evening.

### What happens if I can't get to the hospital during the designated Friday pick-up time, and Monday drop-off time?

There are local small businesses which can provide boarding over the weekend. These businesses can also provide transportation to and from our hospital for cancer care. These businesses are independently licensed, bonded and insured. You will need to contact these businesses to make arrangements, and to discuss logistics, including cost.

With your permission, we can discharge your pet to an employee or agent working for one of these businesses. We can even communicate with them, to ensure they understand special medical needs that may arise as your pet undergoes treatment (such as new medications that are being prescribed, changes in drug doses, need for special wound care, etc.).

The following are businesses identified as offering boarding services and transportation. NC State Veterinary Hospital does not endorse or recommend any commercial products, processes, or services, and reference herein to any specific business does not constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by NC State.

Current businesses that may be able to offer these services to you include:

#### **Penny Pinching Pooches**

- **Contact Name:** Sherrill Jacobson
- **Phone:** (919)601-0233
- **Email:** [pppooches@yahoo.com](mailto:pppooches@yahoo.com)
- **Web Address:** [www.pennypinchingpooches.com](http://www.pennypinchingpooches.com)