Radiation Oncology - MammoSite® RTS Information

- X-rays will be taken daily, before the morning treatment to verify the position of the balloon.
- During the treatments you will be monitored by a closed circuit TV and audio system. Your caregivers can see and hear you during treatment and if necessary, can turn the machine off and immediately come into the room.
- If you are feeling well, you can drive yourself to the radiation appointments.
- Wear the surgical bra at all times to provide support and protect the catheter.
- You should not shower, but you may sponge bathe and wash your hair.
- The nurse will cleanse the MammoSite® RTS and apply a clean dressing daily.
- If there was a large amount of drainage you could change the dressing. The caps from the catheter should not be touched or removed.
- Treatment is generally well tolerated.
- Your family will not be exposed to any radiation during or after treatment.
- There are red stiffeners located inside the catheter – they may fall out. This will not harm anything. Please bring the stiffener with you to your next appointment.

Expected side effects from treatment may include:

- Mild breast tenderness
- Edema (swelling)
- Bruising
- Redness of the skin
- Small amounts of serosanguinous (thin red discharge) drainage

You should change your dressing daily. To change dressing:

- Assemble supplies.
- Wash your hands thoroughly and remove old dressing.
- Wash hands again. Place Bacitracin around catheter insertion area. If you are allergic to sulfa do not use Bacitracin.
- Place cut gauze 4X4 drainage sponges around catheter. Place abdominal pad over the gauze. Wash hands again.
- Do not use tape. The surgical bra will act as tape.

Please call if a sudden onset occurs of a large amount of drainage from the insertion site or if you have symptoms of infection, such as warmth or reddening of the breast or fever of 100.4°F or more. If you have any questions, please call the Radiation Oncology department at (315) 464-5276.