

Social Services

Social workers are available to assist you. If you feel you may need this service, please notify the Cancer Center.

Chaplain Services

A hospital chaplain is available for patients and family members. If you wish to see a chaplain, ask a nurse or volunteer in the waiting room and appropriate arrangements will be made. Hardy Chapel, located on the first floor of the hospital, is open 24 hours a day.

Medical Inn

Trinity Medical Inn offers you and your family all the comforts of a hotel, but at a reasonable cost. The Inn, located on the Trinity campus, has a limited number of rooms and reservations are required. For additional information or to make a reservation please call 592-5910.

Parking

There is a designated free parking area for Radiation Oncology patients directly outside the Cancer Center.

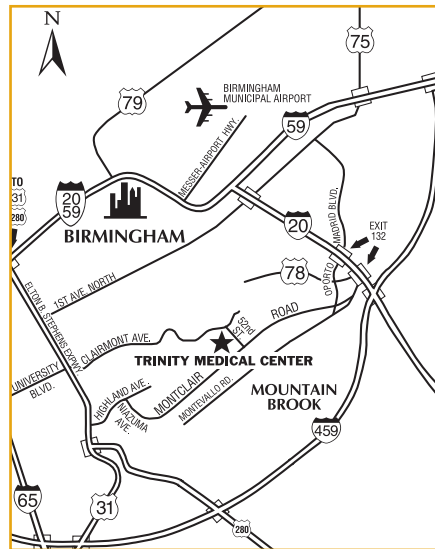
ATMs and Banking Services

Legacy Community Federal Credit Union is located on the plaza level of Professional Office Building 840. An automatic teller machine (ATM) is located in the lobby of the Trinity admitting department.

Gift Shop/Pharmacy

The Trinity Gift Shop is located in the hospital lobby on the first floor. The shop features cards, flowers, jewelry, clothing, candy, magazines, gift items and personal items.

Griffin Pharmacy is located in Professional Office Building 860. The pharmacy is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Directions to Trinity Medical Center

From I-65 North, Hwy. 280 North

Take I-459 exit north to I 20 west (exit 29 to Birmingham). Continue on I-20 west to Montevallo Road (exit 132), exit left. Continue on Montevallo to Montclair Road. Turn right onto Montclair Road. Hospital main entrance is approximately 2.3 miles on right.

From I-20/59 East

Take I-20/59 east to I-20 east (exit 130 to Atlanta). Continue on I-20 east to Oporto Madrid Blvd. (exit 132A). Exit right onto Oporto Madrid, continue to Montclair Road. Turn right onto Montclair Road. Hospital main entrance is approximately 1.6 miles on right.

From I-65 South

From I-65 south take the I-20/59 east exit. Continue on I-20/59 east to I-20 east (exit 130 to Atlanta). Continue on I-20 east to Oporto Madrid Blvd. (exit 132A). Exit right onto Oporto Madrid. Continue on Oporto Madrid to Montclair Road. Turn right onto Montclair Road. Hospital main entrance is approximately 1.6 miles on the right.

From I-20 West

Take I-20 west to Montevallo Road (exit 132). Exit left. Continue to Montclair Road. Turn right onto Montclair Road. Hospital main entrance is approximately 2.3 miles on right.



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Radiation ONCOLOGY



Radiation Oncology

The Radiation Oncology Department at Trinity Medical Center provides a comprehensive range of high quality as well as compassionate services to our patients. Our Board Certified Radiation Oncologist physicians, nurses, radiation therapists, dosimetrists and medical physicists provide patients with the highest level of care and support throughout the entire course of treatment. The Cancer Program, as well as the Radiation Oncology Department, is accredited by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer.

Radiation therapy or radiotherapy is the use of various forms of radiation to safely and effectively treat cancer and other diseases. Radiation oncologists may use radiation to cure cancer, control the growth of the cancer or relieve symptoms such as pain. Radiation therapy works by damaging cells. Normal cells are able to repair this damage themselves, but cancer cells cannot. Various techniques allow doctors to better target the radiation to protect healthy cells.

Types of Radiation Therapy

Radiation therapy can be delivered in two ways, externally or internally. During external beam radiation, the radiation oncology team uses a machine called a linear accelerator to direct high energy X-rays at the cancer. Internal radiation or brachytherapy involves placing the radiation sources (for example, radioactive seeds) inside the tumor.

External Beam Radiation Therapy:

Linear Accelerator Therapy

The Radiation Oncology Department provides two high energy linear accelerators which allow the production of high energy X-rays as well as electron beam radiation. By having two machines, this allows for convenient scheduling of our patients. Both machines offer the capabilities of intensity modulated radiation which is an extremely precise means of delivering radiation.

Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT)

IMRT allows the delivery of extremely precise doses of radiation that can destroy the cancer cells while allowing better sparing of the surrounding normal and healthy tissues. This involves a very special type of radiation treatment planning to calculate the doses of radiation.

Brachytherapy:

High Dose Rate Brachytherapy (HDR)

HDR uses a small radioactive iridium source on the end of a computer controlled flexible wire. The radiation is delivered through narrow tubes, called catheters, into the tumor. The tubes remain in place for only a very short time and then are removed. Once the treatment is complete, the patient is discharged the same day. After this type of radiation, no special precautions regarding radiation exposure to others are necessary. This form of therapy is used in the treatment of certain cases of lung, breast and cervix cancer.

Mammosite Radiation Therapy

This form of therapy uses the High Dose Rate (HDR) form of radiation to treat breast cancer after the primary tumor has been removed. A flexible plastic tube called a Mammosite catheter or balloon is inserted into the cavity where the original cancer was removed. Treatment is given twice a day for five days. The Mammosite catheter is connected to the HDR machine which then uses a special computer to direct the small radioactive source into the catheter. This remains in place for only a few minutes and is then removed. After the end of five days of treatment the catheter is removed.

Gliosite Radiation Therapy

This form of brachytherapy uses a special inflatable catheter or balloon which is placed into the cavity where the original primary or metastatic brain tumor was removed. A portion of the catheter is placed directly beneath the skin. Using a small needle inserted through the skin into the catheter, a liquid form of radioactive iodine is then injected into the catheter. This remains in place for four to five days and is then removed.

Prostate Seed Implant

This form of therapy uses special radioactive pellets or seeds of radioactive material which are placed into the prostate under anesthesia. The seeds are temporarily radioactive and deliver the radiation to the prostate cancer over several months. After losing their radioactivity, the seeds remain in the prostate and are harmless.

CT Simulation and Computerized Treatment Planning

To be most effective, radiation must be aimed precisely at the target each and every time treatment is given. The process of measuring your body and marking your skin to help your treatment team direct the beams of radiation safely and exactly to the intended locations is called simulation. At the Trinity Radiation Oncology Department, a special CT scan is done to precisely determine the position and extent of the cancer and the other normal and healthy tissues. This is used with a sophisticated treatment planning computer to calculate the doses of radiation to produce the best possible treatment plan.

Questions/Referrals

For more information, referrals, or questions please contact Trinity's Radiation Oncology department at 592-1212.

Helpful Information While At Trinity

Food

Located on the first floor of the hospital is the cafeteria and vending area. The cafeteria features a salad bar, cold plate selection, specialty food bar, hot entrees and vegetables. Hours of operation are:

Monday – Friday:

Breakfast: 7 am – 10 am
Snacks: 10 am – 11 am
Lunch and Dinner:
11 am – 6:45 pm

Saturday and Sunday:

Breakfast: 7 am – 10 am
Snacks: 10 am – 11 am
Lunch: 11 am – 1:30 pm

The vending machine area, just inside the cafeteria, is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Also located in the cafeteria is McDonald's. It is open from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., seven days a week.

Wall Street Deli is located in Professional Office Building 860 which is just across the street from the hospital. This unique deli is open from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Wall Street Deli features breakfast, specialty sandwiches, fresh-baked bagels, muffins and more.

Cell Phones

Use of cell phones is permitted in the waiting rooms only.

Smoking

Because smoking has been acknowledged to be both a fire and health hazard, **SMOKING IS PERMITTED IN DESIGNATED AREAS ONLY.** You will find designated smoking areas on the Plaza of the hospital and on the 2nd floor behind the Surgical Intensive Care Unit.