GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Precision Cancer Care

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

MRI-Guided Linear Accelerator

Radiation is an important therapeutic tool to treat many kinds of cancer. However, patients are often fearful about both short-term side effects and the well-documented potential for late effects, including nearby organ damage and secondary cancers later in life.

Now, a new device offers an unprecedented level of precision in the delivery of radiation, resulting in fewer side effects and sparing nearby organs and non-cancerous tissue: the **Magnetic Resonance Imaging Guided Linear Accelerator,** also known as MRI-LINAC.

MRI and LINAC are instruments that have been used separately in cancer treatment for many years. Using them simultaneously in one machine offers the most precise delivery available—with specific advantages for soft-tissue tumors in the chest or abdomen (pancreas, liver, kidney, cervical, uterine, colorectal, prostate, and more).

As the MRI machine produces high-definition, diagnostic-quality images of a tumor in real time, the linear accelerator maintains a sharp focus on the tumor while targeting it with high-energy beams. The MRI-LINAC monitors the movement of a tumor—even slight movement due to patient breathing—and continually adjusts the radiation delivery to compensate for any shift in position.

The device also monitors the positioning of a tumor and the surrounding soft tissues from one treatment session to the next, modifying radiation delivery as necessary to account for any changes.

Banner Health Foundation - Tucson

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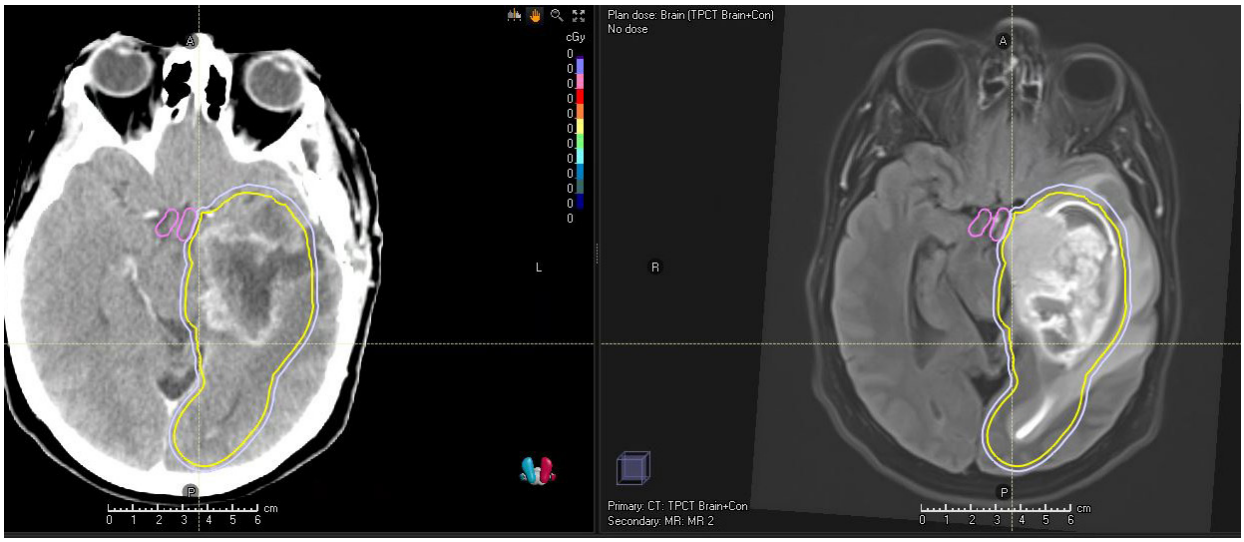
Banner Health Foundation

"Those battling cancer in Arizona deserve access to this game-changing technology to give them the very best chance for a cure with the lowest amount of collateral damage possible."

- Baldassarre Stea, M.D., Ph.D.,
Banner – University Medicine
Department of Radiation Oncology

Benefits of MRI-LINAC Technology

- Compared to traditional machines or low-field MRI, the image quality is extraordinary.
- MRI allows for continuous imaging during treatment, ensuring the tumor stays within the target volume during the entire treatment.



Brain tumors are better visualized in an MRI scan (right) than a CT scan (left). An MRI-LINAC would offer better guidance in monitoring the brain tumor during radiation, thus allowing changes in the structure of the tumor to be seen on a daily basis rather than at the end of treatment. The knowledge acquired from such daily monitoring will eventually translate to better treatment outcomes as the oncologist can adapt treatment based on immediate feedback.

Only a handful of cancer centers around the country offer this game-changing technology; currently, the closest for Arizona patients is located in California.

Philanthropic investment will bring this advanced treatment option to Tucson to benefit patients in Southern Arizona, the entire state, and across the desert southwest. And, it will allow our teaching institution to teach medical residents and students the latest care methods using the state-of-the art technology to prepare them for careers in modern medicine.

How to Give

Invest in the health of our community with a tax-deductible gift to the Banner Health Foundation. Gifts of cash, stock or securities, multi-year pledges and recurring monthly gifts are welcome.

- Multi-year pledge
- Recurring monthly gift
- Stock or appreciated securities
- One-time gift of cash
- Estate gift

For questions or to learn more about naming opportunities:

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