



Hôpital général juif  
Jewish General Hospital

**Patient & Family Resource Centre**

**Pavilion A, local 200, extension 2453 ou 2438**

**Pavillon E, local 707, poste 2768**

[www.igh.ca/gynonc](http://www.igh.ca/gynonc)

**HEALTH INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS FOLLOWED IN THE  
GYNECOLOGIC ONCOLOGY SERVICE**

## **Radiation for Vulvar Cancer**

**FROM CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY :**

### **What is radiation therapy**

“Radiation therapy uses high-energy rays or particles to destroy cancer cells. Radiation may be used for vulvar cancer:

- after surgery to destroy cancer cells left behind and to reduce the risk of the cancer recurring (adjuvant radiation therapy) in women who have positive lymph nodes in the groin
- before surgery, with or without chemotherapy, to shrink a tumour (neoadjuvant radiation therapy)
- as primary treatment for women who cannot have surgery because of health concerns
- to relieve pain or to control the symptoms of advanced vulvar cancer (palliative radiation therapy)

The amount of radiation given during treatment, and when and how it is given, will be different for each woman.

...

Vulvar cancer is usually treated with external beam radiation therapy. A machine directs radiation to the tumour and some of the surrounding tissue.”

For more information please talk to your doctor or visit the **Canadian Cancer Society** website: [www.cancer.ca](http://www.cancer.ca) > **Cancer Information** > **Cancer type** > **Vaginal** > **Treatment** > [Radiation Therapy](#)

**Turn over for more useful resources →**

**Please note:** The information provided by the Library is for educational purposes. The Library staff are not medical professionals and cannot diagnose illness or recommend treatment. We encourage you to discuss the information we provide with your doctor or healthcare professional.



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## USEFUL WEBSITES

### ❖ **BC CANCER AGENCY (BCCA)**

The BC Cancer Agency's mandate covers the spectrum of cancer care from prevention and screening, to diagnosis, treatment, and through to rehabilitation.

[www.bccancer.bc.ca](http://www.bccancer.bc.ca) > **Patient/Public info**

> **Cancer treatment** > [Radiation Therapy](#)

> **Cancer type** > **Vulvar** > [Treatment](#)

### ❖ **NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE**

The US Government's main agency for cancer research and training.

[www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov) > **Cancer topics**

> **Treatment : Types of treatment** > [Radiation therapy](#)

> **PDQ® (Physician Data Query)** > [Vulvar Cancer Treatment – Radiation therapy](#)

### ❖ **WOMEN'S CANCER NETWORK**

The mission of the Women's Cancer Network is to keep women informed and to enable them to be their own health advocates. The Women's Cancer Network was developed by The Gynecologic Cancer Foundation.

[www.wcn.org](http://www.wcn.org) > **Type of gynecological cancers** > **Vulvar cancer** > [Radiation therapy](#)

### ❖ **AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY**

The American Cancer Society is a nationwide, community-based voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem.

[www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org) > **Learn about cancer** > **Vulvar Cancer** > **Detailed Guide** > **Treating Vulvar Cancer** > [Radiation Therapy for Vulvar Cancer](#)

### ❖ **CANCERHELP UK**

The website is designed by Cancer Research UK that provides reliable, easy to understand patient information.

[www.cancerhelp.org.uk](http://www.cancerhelp.org.uk) > **About cancer** > **Your cancer type** > **More cancer types** > **Vulval cancer** > **Treating vulval cancer** > [Radiotherapy for vulval cancer](#)

### ❖ **MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT UK**

Founded in 1911, Macmillan Cancer Support has grown to become the largest cancer care and support charity in the UK. It exists to help improve the lives of people affected by cancer, both those living with cancer and also their families and carers.

[www.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk) > **Cancer Information** > **Cancer types** > **Cancer of the vulvar** > **Treating vulvar cancer** > [Radiotherapy](#)

**Questions? Need some help to find health information? Want to borrow books of our collection? Please visit the Patient & Family Resource Centre at the JGH!**

[www.jgh.ca/en/pfrc](http://www.jgh.ca/en/pfrc)