



# Economic Implications of Advancements in Radiation Technology

Sponsored by: OTN

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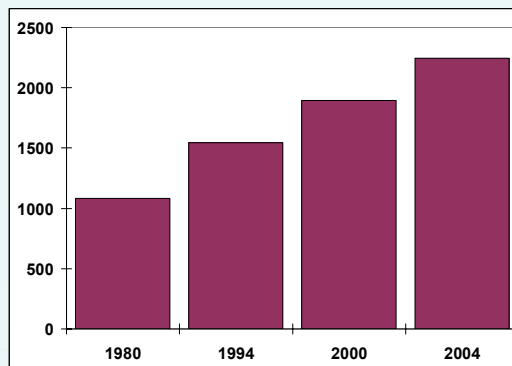
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## Dramatic Growth of RT Capacity in the US

- 2,246 Radiation Therapy Facilities in the US in 2004-2005.<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup>Elkin, EB, et al, "Radiation therapy facilities in the United States" *International Journal of Radiation Oncology/Biology/Physics*, Volume 66, Issue 4, 15 November 2006, Pages 1204-1211

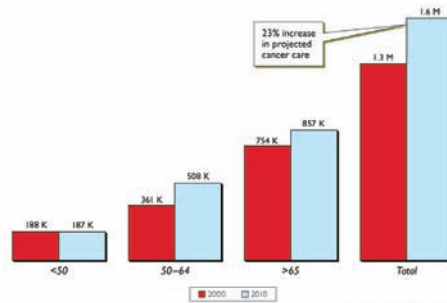


# Predicted Growth of Cancer Cases in the US

Investment Driver #1—Robust Market Demand

## Cancer Population Rising Sharply

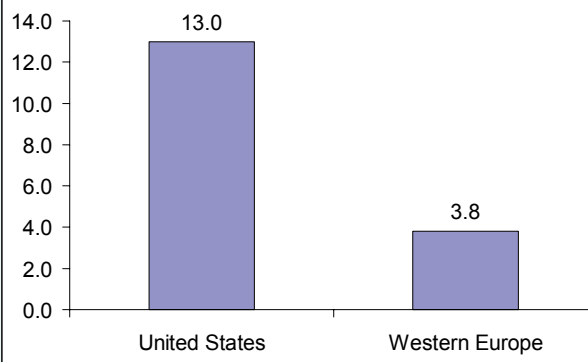
Projected Number of Cancer Cases, by Age Group



Source: National Cancer Institute, SEER Cancer Statistics Review, 1973-1999 available at: [http://seer.cancer.gov/csr/1973\\_1999/](http://seer.cancer.gov/csr/1973_1999/)

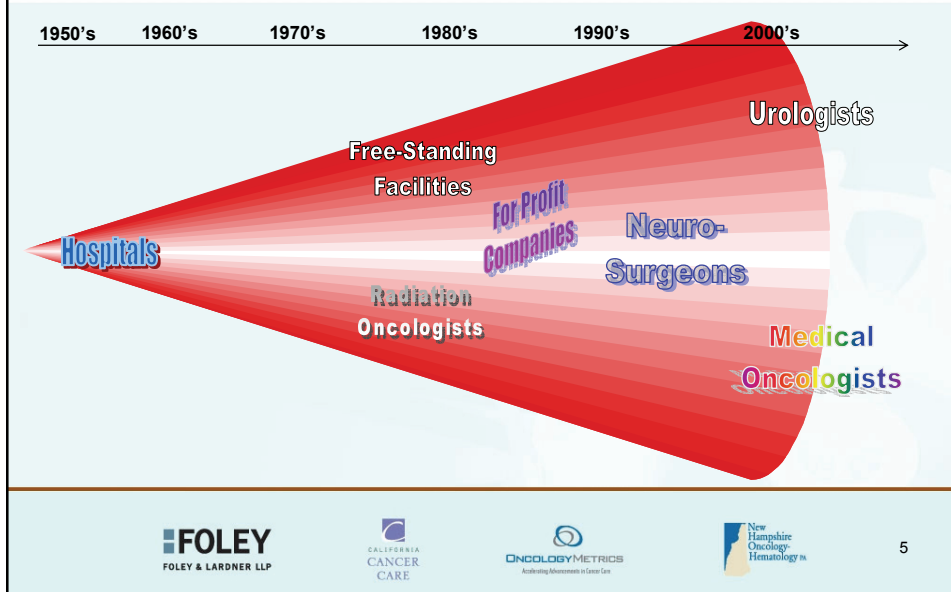
# US RT Capacity High vs. Europe

Linacs per Million Population in the Year 2000



What the market will bear vs. Government sanctioned

## RT Technology Buyers Grow More Diverse



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Accelerating Measurements in Cancer Care

New  
Hampshire  
Oncology  
Hematology

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## Who are the Stakeholders in RT and What do They Need?

Stakeholder	Need	Costs
Patients	Better Outcomes	↑
Providers	Profit, Differentiation, Quality	↑
Manufacturers	Profit, Market Share	↑
Payers	Value	↓

New Technology in RT satisfies all these needs  
→ These stakeholders drive New Technology

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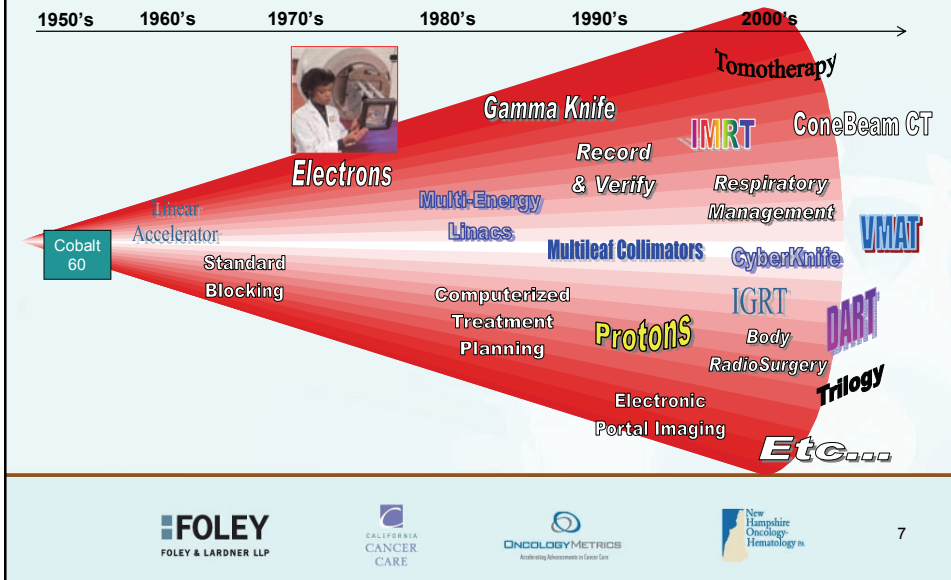
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# The Expanding Variety of New RT Technologies



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# The Goal of Radiation Therapy

- Maximize tumor cell death while minimizing damage to healthy cells
- This goal hasn't changed in over 50 years!



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## Increased Competition within RT

- Hospital-based Centers
  - Academic models
  - Community Hospital models
- Free-standing Centers
  - Physician owned
    - Radiation Oncologists
    - Medical Oncologists
    - Urologists
    - Surgeons

Using many different RT technologies

## Increased Competition to RT

- Targeted Chemotherapy Agents
- Robotic Surgery (DaVinci)
- Traditional Surgery
- Interventional Oncology
- Cryotherapy
- Watchful waiting (economic and clinical drivers)
  - When will CMS implement clinical restrictions on the treatment of prostate cancer?
- Lower costs outside of US
  - E.g. cosmetic surgery

## What are the Motivators Driving the Purchase of New RT Technologies?

- Clinical
- Financial
- Strategic / Competitive / Emotional

## New Technology Purchasing Considerations: Clinical Issues

- Is there clinical research supporting the new technology?
- Is there an expectation of improved clinical outcomes?

## New Technology Purchasing Considerations: Financial Issues

- Will payers reimburse for this new technology?
- Will we realize sufficient patient volume?
- What is reimbursement likely to be in the future?
- What is my ROI?

## New Technology Purchasing Considerations: Emotional/Strategic Issues

- Is the technology appealing to the consumer?
- Does it differentiate us from competitors?
- Does it provide an ego-boost?

## New Technology Economic Decision Formula:

Clinical Benefits  
+ Financial Gain  
+ Strategic and  
Emotional Gain

>

Costs



## New Technology Purchasing Considerations: Timing Issues

Adoption	Early	Middle	Late
<b>Clinical Value</b>	Presumed	Limited Support	Known
<b>Cost</b>	High	High	Reduced
<b>Reimbursement</b>	Limited to None	Maximum	Reduced
<b>Marketing Value</b>	High	Significant	Limited
<b>Safety Risk</b>	High	Moderate	Low



## Cyberknife (Accuray)

- Stereotactic Radiosurgery (SRS)
- Competes with Linear Accelerator
- Market Share
  - ~70 units in the US (1.6%)
  - 34 International Sites
    - 15 of 34 in Japan
- IPO in February 2007



## Cyberknife (Accuray)

- Is there Clinical Justification?
  - Well published for Cranial applications
  - Less documented for extra-cranial sites
- Is it Financially Viable?
  - List Price: \$4.1 Million
  - Minimal US presence
  - Medicare Payments ↓ 25-29% in 2007
    - \$5,520 ↓ \$3,896 and \$3,750 ↓ \$2,645
    - Lost “New Technology” classification by CMS in 2007
  - Future downward pressure likely

## Cyberknife (Accuray)

- Are there Strategic/Emotional Rationale?
  - Provides noticeable differentiation among healthcare providers
  - Provides a degree of prestige
  - Markets itself well

## Tomotherapy

- Intensity Modulated Arc Radiotherapy
- Market Share
  - ~96 units in the US (2.2%)
  - >150 units worldwide
- Reimbursed at IMRT rate
- IPO in May 2007



## Tomotherapy

- Is there Clinical Justification?
- Is it Financially Viable?
  - Likely to see decreases in reimbursement
  - Potential patient throughput limitations
- Are there Strategic/Emotional Rationale?
  - Market Differentiation
  - Provides a degree of prestige

## Proton Therapy

- Traditional Design
  - ~\$150 Million
    - ~100,000 Square Feet
    - Multi (4) Gantry System and Fixed Beam
    - Large Staffing Requirements
  - 6 Facilities in operation in US
  - Loma Linda has the largest patient volume
  - Implementation timeline is ~3 years, which increases risk

## Emerging Proton Therapy

- Compact Design
  - ~\$60 Million
    - 2 Gantry System and 1 Fixed Beam
  - Smaller space requirements
  - No facilities in operation yet
  - Potential to bring Proton Therapy to the Community Setting

## Proton Therapy

- Is there Clinical Justification?
  - Prostate
    - Lots of competition for this disease site
      - IMRT, 3D, Seed Implants, HDR, Cryotherapy, Surgery, Robotic Surgery, etc...
    - No proof protons superior to alternatives
  - Pediatrics & Ocular Tumors
    - Well supported but insufficient patient volumes to justify wide-spread adoption

## Proton Therapy

- Is it Financially Viable?
  - Maybe, if more patients are eligible (i.e. prostate)
    - Estimates up to 20% of all patients eligible for protons
  - However, Konski, et al, concluded that with prostate cancer:
    - "...proton beam therapy is not cost effective for most patients..."\*
  - Also, greater implementation will likely put negatively pressure on reimbursement in the future and...
  - Implementation timelines are 3+ years

\*Konski A., et al, *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, Vol 25, No 24 (August 20), 2007: pp. 3603-3608

## Proton Therapy

- Although Proton Therapy may satisfy Strategic/Emotional Needs:
  - Market differentiation
  - Patient demand
  - Ego boost
- There is little clinical or financial rationale for widespread adoption of Proton Therapy into a US system with overcapacity

## Volumetric Intensity Modulated Arc Therapy

- Linear Accelerator–based technology
- Complete Treatment in one 360 rotation of gantry
- Potential for more precise treatment
- Reduction of Treatment time
  - From 20 Minutes
  - Down to 2 Minutes
- With Conebeam CT Capability it Competes with Tomotherapy

## Implications of Volumetric Arc Therapy

- Improved Clinical Outcomes
- Faster & More Accurate Treatment
- Greater Machine Throughput
- Fewer Machines per Center
- Reduced Staffing Costs Possible

## Volumetric Intensity Modulated Arc Therapy

- Is there Clinical Justification?
  - VMAT is an extension of existing technology
  - Dose modeling predicts positive clinical results
  - Very few patients treated to date
- Is it Financially Viable?
  - Purchase price is incrementally modest
  - However, there will be reimbursement challenges

## Volumetric Intensity Modulated Arc Therapy

- Are there Strategic/Emotional Rationale?
  - Limited marketing appeal to consumers
    - Major advantage will be decrease in treatment time
  - Provides market differentiation but it may be difficult to get the message across
  - Ego-boost limited to peers



## Centralized Treatment Planning

- Ability to transfer CT data sets over the internet securely
- Physician draws target contours on CT images
- CT data set is transferred to centralized planning office
- Physicist optimizes plan
- Completed plan is returned to original site for QA and treatment delivery
- D3 Model

## D3 Model of Centralized Treatment Planning

- Benefits
  - Higher and consistent quality of care
  - Faster implementation of new technology
  - Peer review
  - Cost savings
  - Higher efficiency in treatment planning
- Disadvantages
  - Resistance to adoption



## Where Does All of This Leave Us?

- RT in the US is an environment of:
  - Historically Favorable Reimbursements in RT, which have led to overcapacity, which spurs:
    - Competition
    - Differentiation
    - Rapid Implementation and Adoption of New Technology
  - In Future, Decreasing Reimbursement, Clinical Outcomes, and Capacity Gains may force consolidation

## Contact Us

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