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11<sup>th</sup> June 2018

**PRESS RELEASE:** For Immediate Release

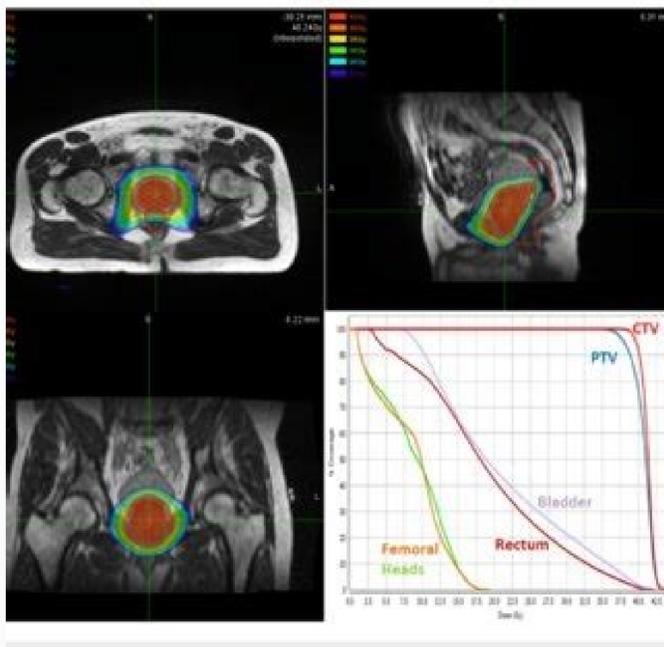
**SERVICING OF THE COBALT-60 RADIOTHERAPY MACHINE COMPLETE**

Management of Uganda Cancer Institute informs the general public that the first routine service of the cobalt-60 radiotherapy machine is complete and that services have resumed fully.

This service was successfully done over the weekend that is 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> June 2018. The designated technician from Czech Republic (LJIP-Praha), Mr. Bednar Andrej has been responsible for the service together with our local technicians. Normal full capacity operation of radiotherapy services has resumed today Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2018. It should also be noted that the servicing of the machine has not interrupted the treatment service since it has been done over the weekend.

The next routine service is scheduled for October 2018.

We therefore call upon the general public to seek these services as well as other cancer treatment services and always seek for the right information regarding our services.



**CANCER TREATMENT**

□ Cobalt therapy or cobalt-60 therapy is the medical use of gamma rays from the radioisotope cobalt-60 to treat conditions such as cancer.

□ Beginning in the 1950s cobalt-60 was widely used in external beam radiotherapy (teletherapy) machines, which produced a beam of gamma rays which was directed into the patient's body to kill tumor tissue.

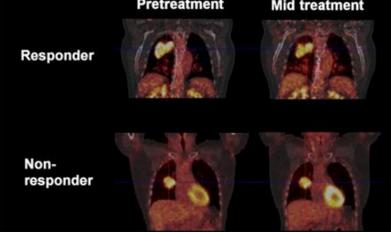
□ Because these "cobalt machines" were expensive and required specialist support they were often housed in cobalt units.

□ Cobalt therapy was a revolutionary advance in radiotherapy in the post-World War 2 period but is now being



Patient receiving cobalt-60 therapy in an early teletherapy machine, probably early 1950s. The cobalt is in the radiation head (top center), which produces a beam of gamma rays which penetrate the patient's body and strike the tumor. Radiation passing through the patient is absorbed by the lead shield opposite. During therapy, the head unit rotates slowly around the patient to reduce the radiation dose to healthy tissue.





Radiation oncology: management decisions. 1993;48:355-359. 2004;59:1424-1431. [Google Scholar]8. Richter J, Baier K, Flentje M. [PubMed] [Google Scholar]Page 2Patient and tumor characteristicsCharacteristicsIr-192Co-60p-valueAll274 (57.1)206 (42.9)Age (yr)54.11 (20-85)53.41 (27-87)0.167Histology0.823Squamous cell carcinoma223 (81.4)163 (79.1)Adenocarcinoma46 (16.8)39 (18.9)Adenosquamous5 (1.8)4 (1.9)Tumor grade0.103Well differentiated64 (23.4)51 (24.8)Moderate differentiated153 (55.8)128 (62.1)Poorly differentiated57 (20.8)27 (13.1)Tumor size (cm)4.57 (1-10)4.82 (0.5-9)0.086≤4132 (48.2)83 (40.3)≥4142 (51.8)123 (59.7)FIGO stage0.429IB25 (1.8)10 (4.8)IIA8 (2.9)7 (3.4)IIB147 (53.6)99 (48.1)IIIA7 (2.6)5 (2.4)IIIB107 (39.1)85 (41.3) 2011;3:48-49. In: Padur R, Coia LR, Hoskins WJ, Wagman LD, editors. Global Burden of Disease Cancer Collaboration. 395-402. Monte Carlo dosimetric study of the BEBIG Co-60 HDR source. 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26/04/2022 · Cobalt-60 is also used for cancer treatment via radiotherapy, and cobalt is applied in soil dressings in cobalt-deficient soil to prevent “wasting disease” in grazing animals.

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