



## **What is ablative therapy?**

Ablative therapy is an alternative treatment when diseased tissue is small or cannot be surgically removed. Ablation means “destroy” and is particularly beneficial for people who cannot undergo surgery due to immune deficiencies or those who have other medical conditions that would make surgery too risky.

Ablation involves inserting and placing an antenna through the skin into the tumor. The antenna is attached to a generator. The antenna delivers therapeutic energy (hot or cold) directly to the diseased tissue using image guidance such as Computerized Tomography (CT) or ultrasound.

Energy is activated at the tip to destroy the tissue. This process may need to be repeated depending on the tissue size, number, and location. The destroyed tissue is not removed, but gradually shrinks and is replaced by scar tissue.

## **What are the advantages of ablative therapy?**

- It is minimally invasive. It is done using small incisions (cuts). An antenna (specialized needle) is inserted through the incision to treat the diseased tissue.
- Less risky and has fewer complications when compared to surgery
- Done as an outpatient procedure or short hospital stay
- Localized treatment option destroys diseased cells without harming surrounding healthy tissue
- May be combined with other treatments
- Recovery time is shorter

## Special instructions

- Do not eat or drink anything after midnight
- Stop taking blood thinners before scheduled appointment as directed
- Bring a driver. Please note that there will be a 5-hour recovery period after procedure.
- Bring all current medications

### Please note:

A follow-up CT or MRI exam is preformed 6-8 weeks after procedure

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