

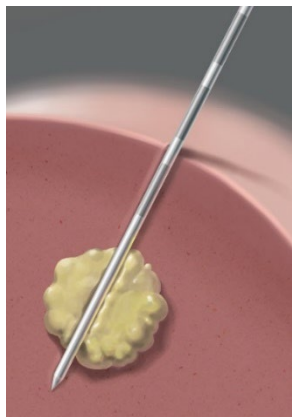
What is ablative therapy?

Ablative therapy is a treatment to get rid of diseased tissue (**tumor**) that is small or cannot be removed through regular surgery. It is a good option for people who can't have surgery because of a weakened immune system, or for those who have other medical conditions that would make surgery too risky.

Ablation involves inserting a treatment needle through the skin into the tumor. The treatment needle is attached to a generator which delivers therapeutic energy (hot or cold) directly to the diseased tissue. This energy comes out at the needle tip to destroy, or **ablate**, the tissue. The destroyed tissue is not removed, but it shrinks and is replaced by scar tissue over time. Depending on the size, number, and location of tumors, you may have to repeat this process more than once.

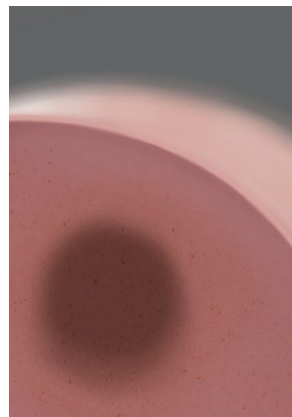
Preparing for ablation:

With the treatment needle in place, the doctor will ablate the tumor using therapeutic energy.



After ablation:

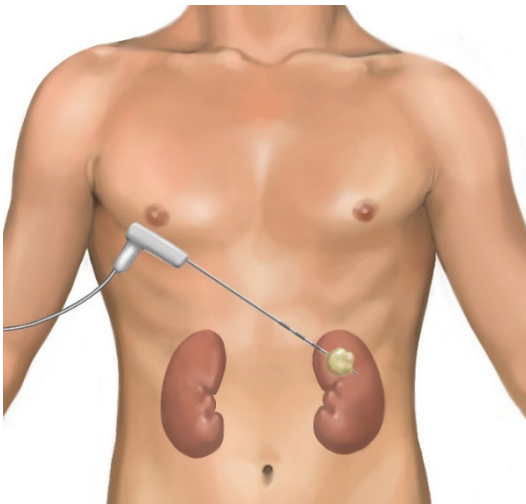
The ablated tumor will stay in the body, where it will shrink over time. Your doctor will continue to check on the area where the tumor was ablated.



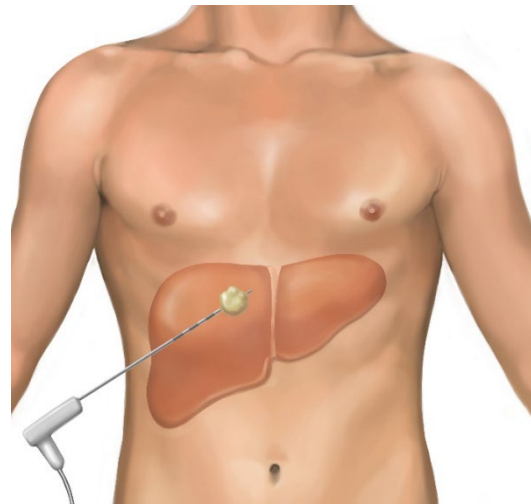
What are the advantages of ablative therapy?

- It is **minimally invasive** (meaning that it doesn't not require as many cuts or large cuts into the body). Ablative therapy uses small **incisions** (cuts), just large enough so we can insert the treatment needle through the incision to treat the diseased tissue.
- It is less risky and has fewer complications (medical issues) when compared to surgery.
- We can do ablation therapy as an outpatient procedure, so it requires no hospital stay or only a short hospital stay.
- Ablation therapy is a localized treatment, meaning it destroys diseased tissue without harming the surrounding healthy tissue.
- Ablative therapy may be combined with other treatments.
- Your recovery time is shorter for ablation therapy than surgery.

Treatment needle is inserted directly into the kidney tumor.



Treatment needle is inserted directly into the liver tumor.



What are my instructions for preparing for ablative therapy?

- On the day before your procedure, do not eat or drink anything after 12 AM (midnight).
- Stop taking blood thinners before your scheduled appointment as directed by your doctor.
- Bring a driver with you to the appointment.
 - Please note that there will be a 5-hour recovery period after your procedure. Your driver does not have to stay in the clinic for this entire time, but they will need to be available to drive you to and from your appointment.
- Bring all medications that you are currently taking with you to your appointment.

What follow-up can I expect after ablative therapy?

We will ask you to come in for a follow-up CT or MRI scan 6-8 weeks after your procedure.

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