

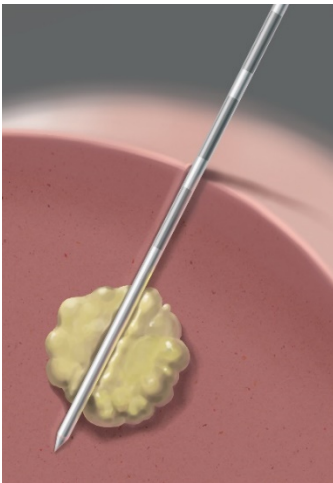


What is ablative therapy?

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.



Antenna inserted:

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

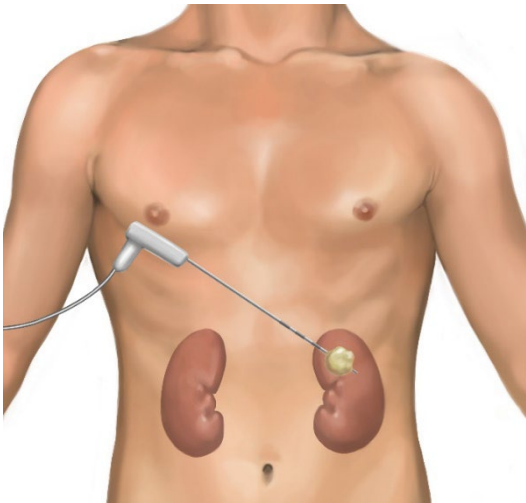


Post-ablation lesion:

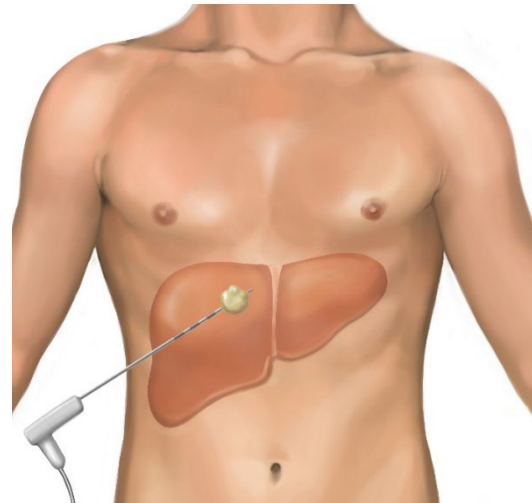
The ablated tumor will remain in the organ where it will shrink over time. Your doctor will monitor the ablation zone.

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



Electrodes are inserted directly into the kidney tumor.



Electrodes are inserted directly into the liver tumor.

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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Reviewer: Elaine Caoili, MD

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