

Ready to start planning your care? Call us at [800-525-2225](tel:800-525-2225) to make an appointment.

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Memorial Sloan Kettering  
Cancer Center

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Intensity-modulated radiation therapy and stereotactic body radiation are two approaches that can reduce damage to normal tissue being treated for liver metastases:

[intensity-modulated radiation therapy \(IMRT\)](#) uses radiation beams of varying intensity that mold to the shape of the tumor. Sophisticated software and 3-D images from CT scans enable your doctor to focus radiation on cancerous tissue more precisely.

[stereotactic body radiation therapy](#) uses a highly focused radiation field to deliver larger doses of radiation in fewer treatments. It combines IMRT and image-guided radiotherapy. Your doctor implants tiny markers into the tumor. A CT scan picks up the location of those markers, guiding radiation to the tumor.

## Respiratory Gating

Because tumors and organs in the abdomen shift when you breathe, precisely delivering radiation to cancerous tissue can be challenging. Your treatment team may recommend motion-management techniques so they can more accurately target liver metastases while sparing healthy tissue.

Respiratory gating is a commonly used motion-management technique. It delivers radiation only at certain points during your breathing cycle. Abdominal compression can also help with motion management. In this technique, you wear a compression belt that applies abdominal pressure to minimize tumor movement. Researchers at MSK are also evaluating anesthesia to minimize tumor movement during radiation treatment.

### Request an Appointment

Call [800-525-2225](tel:800-525-2225)

Available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Eastern time)

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