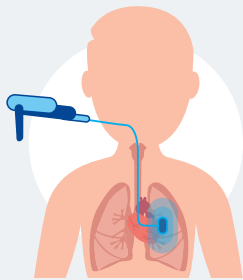


ADVANCED MEDICAL TREATMENTS

COVERED UNDER THE GREAT EASTERN MEDICAL CARD

UPDATED
DEC 2021

Note: The following list of advanced medical treatments is non-exhaustive and is subject to periodic revision by Great Eastern Life Assurance (Malaysia) Berhad.



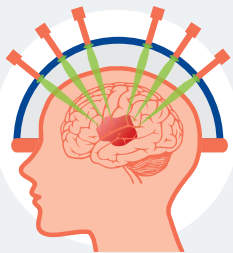
BRACHYTHERAPY 近距离放射治疗

Brachytherapy is a type of **internal radiation** therapy which includes interstitial radiation, intra-cavitary radiation, and high-dose rate or low-dose rate radiation. A **sealed radiation source** in the form of seeds, ribbons or capsules will be **placed in the body, inside or next to the tumour area**, through a catheter or applicator. Brachytherapy is often used to treat cancers of the head and neck, eye, breast, cervix and prostate.



CRYOABLATION 冷冻消融

Also known as **cryosurgery**. It is a form of minimally invasive treatment done using a hollow needle called cryoprobe, liquid nitrogen or argon gas under imaging guidance for individuals with localised cancer or as salvage therapy for recurrent cancer following failure of radiation therapy. Cryoablation **freezes the diseased tissue and destroys the cells of the treated area**. It is used to treat tumours of the skin, bone, liver, kidney, cervix and arrhythmia.



GAMMA KNIFE 伽马刀放射治疗

Gamma Knife radiosurgery is a **non-invasive radiation therapy** for brain tumours that allows most of the patient's healthy brain tissue to be reserved. It is a specific form of radiation therapy that **focuses intense beams of gamma rays with pinpoint precision to treat brain lesions**. Usually, only sedation or local anaesthesia is needed for this treatment. Patients do not have to go under the knife and its outcome is similar to that of a surgical procedure.

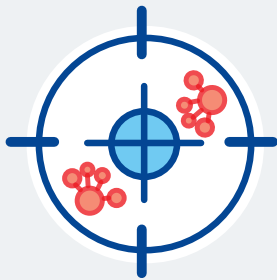


HORMONE THERAPY FOR CANCER 激素疗法

Hormone therapy, also known as **hormonal or endocrine therapy**, is a cancer treatment that **slows or stops the growth of cancer** (e.g. prostate and breast cancers that are hormone-receptor-positive). It is often used before surgery (neoadjuvant) to shrink the tumour size, or after surgery (adjuvant) to reduce recurrence risk. Hormone therapy works by either **lowering the hormone level in the body, or blocking the hormonal action on the cancer cells**.

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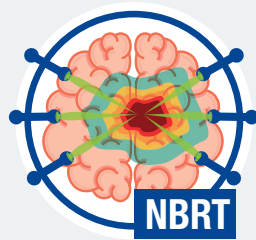
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IMMUNOTHERAPY FOR CANCER

免疫疗法

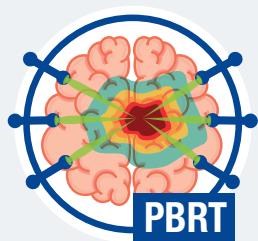
Immunotherapy is a type of cancer treatment that **stimulates or suppresses the patient's natural immune system to fight cancer**, and certain infectious or autoimmune disorders. Types of immunotherapy include cytokines, cancer vaccines, Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG), and monoclonal antibodies.



NEUTRON BEAM RADIATION THERAPY (NBRT)

中子放射治疗

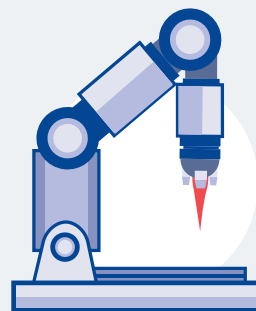
NRBT is a form of **external beam radiation therapy (EBRT)** used in inoperable tumours or tumours that are resistant to conventional radiation therapy. It involves a sophisticated stereotactic method in which **high energy neutrons** (neutral charge subatomic particles) are exerted to accurately **target the diseased tissue mass** localised using computed tomography (CT). Often used in salivary gland cancers, soft tissue sarcoma and prostate cancers.



PROTON BEAM RADIOTHERAPY (PBRT)

质子放射治疗

Proton Beam Radiotherapy (PBRT) is a type of **external beam radiation therapy (EBRT)** that utilises **protons** (positively charged subatomic particles) that are precisely **targeted to a specific tissue mass**. Coverable for **brain tumour, breast cancer, bone cancer, gastrointestinal tumour and prostate cancer**.



ROBOTIC PROSTATECTOMY

机器人辅助前列腺切除术

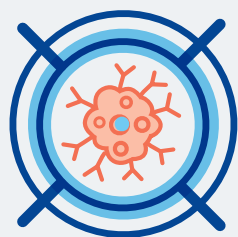
Also known as **robotic-assisted laparoscopic radical prostatectomy**. This laparoscopic surgery is performed using the robotic approach which can only be **controlled by experienced surgeons to remove prostate and nearby diseased tissues with more precision** through small abdominal incisions. It is less invasive than conventional prostatectomy.



STEM CELLS FOR HEMATOPOIETIC CELL TRANSPLANT FOR HAEMATOLOGICAL MALIGNANCIES

干细胞移植

Hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) refers to **intravenous infusion of healthy hematopoietic progenitor cells** either **autologous** (stem cells from the same person going for transplant) or **allogeneic** (stem cells from a compatible donor other than the patient), harvested from **bone marrow or peripheral blood to replace aberrant or dysfunctional cells** in a patient. Examples of hematologic or blood cancers are leukaemia, lymphoma and multiple myeloma.



TARGETED THERAPY FOR CANCER

靶向疗法

Targeted therapy is a type of cancer treatment that **targets proteins that control how cancer cells grow, divide and spread**. It interferes with specific proteins that help tumours grow and spread throughout the body. Types of targeted therapy include small-molecule drugs and monoclonal antibodies.