





PATIENT UNABLE TO SIGN PRIOR TO PICTURE (  ) BECAUSE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Physician Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Witness Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

**POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF RADITATION THERAPY TREATMENT TO THE CHEST, AXILLA, AND NECK AREA**

I understand that any treatment may include side effects as well as the risk of more serious complications. It has been explained to me that each patient reacts differently to the treatment and that I may experience none, some, or all of these reactions to a varying degree of intensity. I further understand that if other types of treatment are given in conjunction with radiation therapy, some of the reactions may be greater or more frequent than if radiation therapy alone is given.

Reactions may include, but not necessarily be limited to the following:

**Immediate Reactions**

Common:

- Tiredness
- Skin reddening & irritation
- Swallowing difficulties
  
- Nausea & Vomiting
- Decreased blood cell count
- Temporary hair loss
- Shingles (Herpes Zoster)
  
- Weight loss
- Temporary changes in taste
- Dryness of the mouth

Uncommon:

- Skin blistering

**Long Term Reactions**

Common:

- Thyroid dysfunction
- Shingles (Herpes Zoster)
- An electric shock sensation on bending the neck (Lhermitte's syndrome)

Uncommon:

- Tumors caused by radiation

**NOTE:** In particular, breast cancer caused by radiation is related to patient age, and in young females, the risk is much higher than in older females.

Dental cavities  
 Inflammation and scarring of the lung

Rare:

Inflammation of the heart

**Extremely Rare:**

Lung collapse  
 Heart attack  
 Irregular heart beat  
 Spinal cord injury  
 Lung scarring with chronic shortness of breath  
 Nerve damage  
 Decreased cardiac function

The possible reactions to, and side effects of, the treatment have been explained to me. My questions have been answered.

Patients initials: \_\_\_\_\_