



Help At Every Step

PAID PROMOTIONAL FEATURE

RBOI's patient-centered treatment and support begin even before a cancer diagnosis is made. Our licensed clinical social workers help you navigate the screening and testing process and offer emotional and practical support to you and your loved ones. That support extends from before diagnosis to after treatment, for as long as you need it.

What does it mean to be patient-centered?

RBOI is named for Robert "Rusty" Boissoneault, who died at 23 from Hodgkin's disease. Dr. Norman Anderson then vowed to dedicate his life's work to the best cancer care possible in memory of his childhood friend. RBOI is the only

facility in central Florida whose specialists (physicians, medical physicists, medical dosimetrists, licensed clinical social workers, and oncology nurses) are all in-house.

Patient care includes more than our state-of-the-art equipment and board-certified, on-site practitioners. Our facilities are designed to help relieve stress and provide the best comfort possible. Their "living room" atmosphere includes skylights, high ceilings, and large windows, an atrium with natural features, and an intimate family consultation room with soundproof walls. Soft music plays instead of a pager. Whenever you call us during business hours, a live person will answer.

What happens in a consultation?

Your radiation oncologist will:

- Review your past medical history.
- Discuss with you your diagnosis, tests, and pathology report.
- Outline your treatment options.
- Give you whatever time you need to ask questions.
- Refer you to more appropriate care if radiation is not indicated.

During treatment, your radiation oncologist will meet with you at least once a week, and will continue to see you after treatment, less frequently, for follow-up examinations and to address any questions or concerns.

by the numbers

1

"The patient comes first."
– Dr. Norman Anderson

1990

RBOI first opens its doors to patients from all over north central Florida on April 30

10%

Free-standing radiation oncology centers in the US currently accredited by the American College of Radiology (ACR), the "gold standard" in medical imaging

1998

RBOI is accredited by the ACR and has maintained accreditation ever since



How does one prepare for radiation treatment?

After your consultation, a simulation will give your medical team the information necessary to tailor treatment to your exact needs. A mold will be made customized to your body. A CT scan will show your medical team where to focus treatment. Your radiation oncologist will meet with our full-time board-certified dosimetrists and medical physicists to design your treatment, which they will monitor every week.

What happens during treatment?

Once you are in your gown, a licensed, certified therapist will take you to a linear accelerator, which will deliver high-energy X-rays and electrons to your tumor(s). You will be placed in the same position you were in during the simulation. As the accelerator rotates around you, you will hear it running but will not sense or feel anything. Your therapist will monitor your treatment carefully through cameras and computer systems outside the room. Afterwards, the therapist will re-enter and assist you out of the room. Your actual treatment will

last about five minutes per session, and your time in the treatment room will typically last no longer than about ten minutes.

You will also meet regularly with a licensed clinical social worker, who can:

- Help you understand what to expect moving forward.
- Provide resources (including educational materials) to help you manage information from your medical team and communicate your needs.
- Match you with another cancer survivor who shares a similar diagnosis and experience.
- Provide counseling for you and your loved ones.
- Link you to practical assistance programs to help with financial concerns, transportation, disability, and more.

You can view a complete video walk-through at [RBOI.com/home/patient-services/before-treatment/your-first-visit/](https://www.rboi.com/home/patient-services/before-treatment/your-first-visit/)

RBOI's support services are available to the community free of charge, from before diagnosis through treatment and afterward, regardless of where you are being treated. Give us a call.



Patient-centered radiation oncology close to home

The Villages 352.259.2200
Ocala 352.732.0277
Timber Ridge 352.861.2400
Inverness 352.726.3400
Lecanto 352.527.0106

[RBOI.com](https://www.rboi.com)

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