

# Prostate Cancer Treatment with SpaceOAR Hydrogel

Treating prostate cancer may require more than one kind of treatment, depending on its stage and severity. These include:

- Medication such as chemotherapy, hormone therapy, targeted therapy or immunotherapy
- Surgery (often using minimally invasive robotic technology)
- Radiation treatments, including brachytherapy or external beam radiation therapy

## Potential Side Effects Due to Prostate Radiation Treatment:

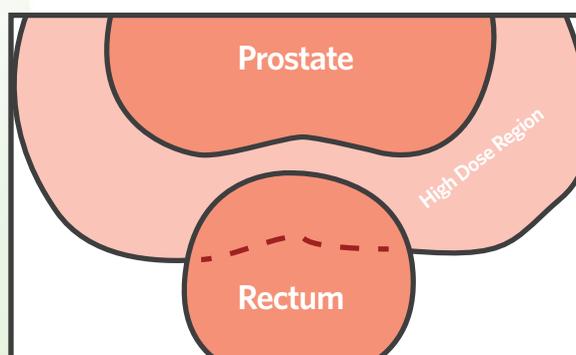
- Diarrhea
- Rectal bleeding
- Mucus discharge
- Rectal pain
- Rectal urgency

These side effects are generally temporary. Some, however, may require further treatment.

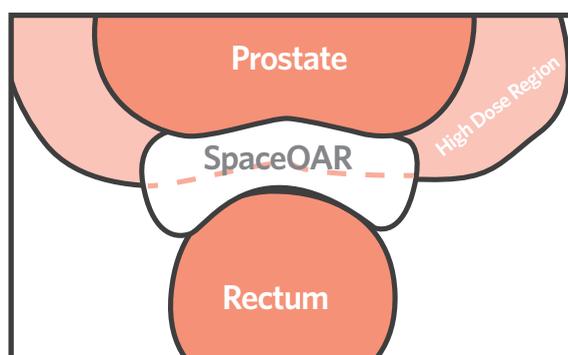
## FDA Approved Option to Reduce Side Effects:

The prostate's proximity to other organs can make them vulnerable during treatment. Mercy employs the SpaceOAR Hydrogel method, a new approach that protects at-risk organs (such as the rectum). SpaceOAR uses a gel-like material which gently moves the rectal wall away from the prostate during radiotherapy and creates a thin barrier (about 1 cm or .5 in) which significantly limits other organs' exposure to radiation. The hydrogel is completely absorbed by the body over time.

The SpaceOAR method reduces side effects and speeds up recovery time for prostate cancer patients. Ask your doctor if it could benefit you.



Without SpaceOAR



With SpaceOAR

To learn more about SpaceOAR, visit [mercy.net/Hydrogel](https://mercy.net/Hydrogel)