

Mayo Clinic Minute: Seeing glioblastoma more clearly could improve how it's treated

Introduction:

Mayo Clinic researchers are studying new ways to treat glioblastoma, an aggressive form of brain cancer.

Their focus is twofold: See the tumor more clearly, then use improved images to make radiation treatment more precise — and less burdensome — for patients.

That could mean better targeting of the tumor — and potentially shorter treatment time.

DeeDee Stiepan reports in this Mayo Clinic Minute.

Video	Audio
William Breen, M.D. Radiation Oncology Mayo Clinic in Rochester	“We’re trying to develop and improve treatments that will help improve the length of time patients live, as well as their quality of life and function while they’re alive.”
	For patients with glioblastoma, treatment begins with seeing the tumor as accurately as possible.
	“We’ve known for many years that the tumor extends beyond what the standard MRI shows.”
	Advanced imaging can give doctors a more complete picture, helping them target radiation more precisely.
	“By using advanced imaging, we’re able to treat a smaller area in many patients and reduce the amount of normal brain receiving radiation.”
	Better targeting may also mean less time in treatment.
	“It also may allow us to treat tumors with a little bit higher dose per treatment, meaning we can finish the treatment in a shorter period of time.”
	Mayo Clinic researchers continue to study ways to improve care for patients with glioblastoma.

	“There’s much work to be done to continue to improve these outcomes, but we have seen progress over the years to improve both quality of life and quantity of life for our patients with glioblastomas.”
	For Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m DeeDee Stiepan.