

Practical Radiation Oncology

Washing Away the Fear

--Manuscript Draft--

Manuscript Number:	PRACTICALRADONC-D-20-00165
Article Type:	Narrative Oncology
Section/Category:	Clinical Investigation - Other
Corresponding Author:	Robert J. Amdur University of Florida Gainesville, Florida UNITED STATES
First Author:	Robert J. Amdur
Order of Authors:	Robert J. Amdur Anamaria Yeung, MD
Abstract:	N/A

Washing Away the Fear

Robert Amdur, MD and Anamaria Yeung, MD

From the Department of Radiation Oncology, University of Florida College of Medicine, Gainesville FL

Funding: None.

Disclosures: RA is the Editor-in-Chief of *Practical Radiation Oncology*.

Corresponding Author:

Robert Amdur, MD

Department of Radiation Oncology

University of Florida

2000 SW Archer Rd.

Gainesville, FL 32610

Phone: (352) 265-0287; Fax: (352) 265-7045

Email: amdurr@shands.ufl.edu

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

Narrative Oncology

The COVID pandemic has transformed the radiation oncology department into a place of fear for the safety of our patients, our colleagues, and ourselves. Every day we review updates on how to decrease the chance of infection and work to change behaviors in our work routine.

Frequent hand sanitation is our first line of defense. Every door handle, keyboard, mouse and clinic routing form is a potential source of transmission. Applying hand sanitizer has become a ritual that gets us through the day. We do it alone, we do it with others, we add more product and lather more vigorously when the fear is high but use just a dab and finish quickly when we are feeling brave.

We know this crisis will pass but it will be difficult to encounter a container of hand sanitizer again without stopping for a quick shot- rituals that get us through tough times may be a source of comfort forever.

