The 465-bed Los Angeles Medical Center (LAMC) serves as a referral center for more than 3 million Kaiser Permanente members throughout Southern California. LAMC is the major tertiary care facility for Kaiser Permanente Oncology specialties and subspecialties. The Medical Center also maintains an active teaching program in all major medical and surgical subspecialty services.

Kaiser Permanente LAMC is one of the affiliated teaching hospitals of the UCLA School of Medicine. Students and residents from UCLA, USC and other institutions routinely rotate through our hospital. Many members of our medical staff serve on the UCLA and USC teaching faculty.

Kaiser Permanente is among the nation’s largest and most highly regarded managed care organizations. As a member of our residency program, you will learn to practice cost-effective, yet caring medicine—an approach indispensable to providing quality health care in all future medical settings.

The Program
The Kaiser Permanente Radiation Oncology Department is academically oriented and dedicated to delivering high-quality patient care. The department is the largest in California and one of the largest in the nation. In this department, all types and stages of malignancies are seen with a high percentage being curative treatment. We see approximately 8,000 patients in consultation and 7,000 follow-up cases per year.

The residency program is approved for eight total residents. Residents function as a critical part of the medical team during PGY-2 through PGY-5 years. A minimum of 42 months will be spent in the department and there is time available for electives.
These four years include progressively increasing responsibility in all phases of clinical oncology. The resident is assigned patients who are evaluated for treatment by a staff physician. If treatment is indicated, both the resident and the staff physician will see the patient for planning, treatment, and follow-up.

The resident will also participate in combined clinics where specialists from radiation, surgery and medical oncology come together to examine patients and discuss their care. The Radiation Oncology Department also co-sponsors multidisciplinary clinics for breast cancer, gynecology oncology, stereotactic radiosurgery, genitourinary malignancy, rectal cancer, and head and neck cancers. Residents will participate in these clinics where specialists from radiation, surgery and medical oncology come together to examine patients and discuss their care. In addition, there are numerous multidisciplinary tumor conferences each month for lymphoma, liver tumors, GI, pediatric and thoracic malignancies.

The resident also receives formal instruction in radiation physics, radiation biology, and medical statistics in the form of an annual lecture series. A laboratory practicum in radiation physics is also offered to give the resident practical knowledge and hands-on experience with a variety of treatment techniques, radiation dose measurement equipment, and equipment calibration procedures.

In addition to class examinations, the resident will participate in the in-service exam, written by the American College of Radiology, and the RAPHEX exam, prepared by the Radiological and Medical Physics Society. These exams are administered nationally each year and give the resident the opportunity to judge the progress of his or her education against all other residents in the same year group.

The four-year curriculum offers the resident time to participate in the department’s extensive research program. The resident may choose to focus on clinical, radiation physics, or radiation biology research. It is required that this effort culminates in the presentation of the results at one or more national or international meetings, and result in a publication in an appropriate peer-reviewed journal.

All requirements for radiation certification can be met within our institution. Completion of this four-year ACGME-approved residency in radiation oncology will lead to qualification for Therapeutic Radiology board certification. Physicians who have completed one acceptable postgraduate year in PGY-1 are taken for entry at the PGY-2 level. Kaiser does offer a PGY-1 internship in Internal Medicine and you may apply separately to that program through the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS).

**Equipment and Technology**

Residency training takes places at our 50,000-square-foot freestanding radiation facility located at Los Angeles Medical Center. We have two additional facilities in Ontario and Anaheim. At LAMC, we have the following equipment:
THERAPY SECTION
• Three Varian iX with OBI and VMAT capabilities
• One Varian TrueBeamStx with BrainLab Exatrac System, with 6D table dedicated to SRS, FSRT and SBRT
• One Varian VitalBeam
• One Varian 21EX
• One Varian 6 EX
• Varian HDRiX afterloader for interstitial and intracavitary implants.
• Ultrasound and CT-based equipment for permanent prostate seed implants.
• Seven additional Varian Linear accelerators with SRS, SBRT, and VMAT capabilities at Ontario and Anaheim facilities

PLANNING SECTION
• Two GE large bore dedicated CT simulators.
• Pinnacle Server supporting 13 planning terminal for external beam radiation treatment planning
• BrainLab iNet SRS/FSRT Server
• BrainLab Element Planning for Multiple Target SRS system
• Two additional GE large bore CT simulators at Ontario and Anaheim

RESEARCH SECTION
• Tumor registry of more than 52,000 patients treated at this facility.
• Access to on-site biochemistry laboratory to support a variety of radiation biology projects, with the following instrumentation:
  – Fully equipped tissue culture facility.
  – Becton-Dickenson FacStarPlus sorting flow cytometer.
  – Six centrifuges. Two scintillation counters.
  – Facilities to support all types of molecular biology research, including Western blotting, real-time polymerase chain reaction, and epigenetic analysis.