

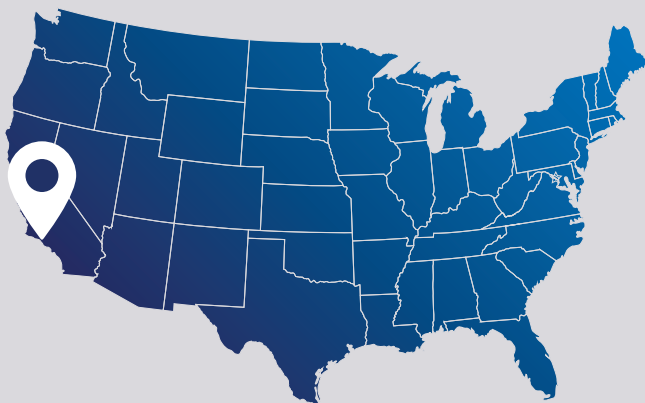
# CASE STUDY - TATTOOLESS TREATMENT UTILIZING ALIGNRT FOR A BETTER PATIENT EXPERIENCE

Block Times reduced 50%  
 Treatment time reduced 30%  
 Patient throughput growth 30%



## OVERVIEW:

**Institution Type:** Hospital based cancer center  
**Location:** La Jolla, CA  
**SGRT System:** AlignRT (4)  
**Linac:** Varian Truebeam (2), Halcyon, Ethos  
**Cancer types treated:** All cancer types



## CAPITALIZING ON THEIR CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY

UCSD is a world-renowned cancer center with some of the most cutting-edge technology. While the team was already using AlignRT to treat their SRS/Brain patients without the use of tattoos, Mallori Kuhn, Radiation Therapist, initiated a plan for UCSD to expand the use of AlignRT to enhance the patient experience and treat their breast cancer patients without tattoos.



*"Our main goal was to utilize our cutting-edge technology to enhance the patient experience and eliminate an old technique of using tattoos. We found that by not using tattoos, we could also eliminate some cost."*

**Mallori Kuhn BS, RT(T)**, Radiation Therapist

## GOALS

1

### ENHANCE PATIENT EXPERIENCE

Utilize their current technology to customize cancer care and deliver advanced treatments to their patients.

2

### REDUCE TREATMENT TIME

Decrease the time patients are exposed and in the treatment vault.

3

### TATTOO AND MARK-FREE

Demonstrate time and cost savings by offering tattoo and mark-free treatment with AlignRT.



## RESULTS

1. Simulation, was on average, 54% faster without tattoos - 4-8 minutes per treatment.
2. Treatment time was, on average, 30% faster without tattoos - 3-5 minutes per treatment.
3. Block time was reduced 50% – 20 minutes to 10 minutes.
4. Patient throughput increased 30% – 35 patients to 45 patients per day.
5. Cost savings on tattoo supplies – \$7,000.

## SOLUTION

UCSD initiated a "Tattooless Lean Project" that helped them maximize the full potential of AlignRT, justify a transition to tattooless treatment, and help the entire radiation oncology team through the implementation process.

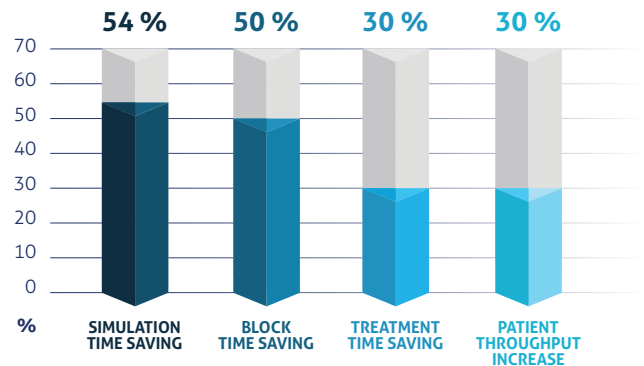
### PLAN

1.
  - Identified all the stakeholders from each department – Radiation Oncologist, Physicist, Dosimetrist, Radiation Therapist – and asked what their questions/concerns were upfront.
  - Observed UCSD Encinitas (already offering tattooless breast treatment) and proactively addressed the challenges they had when they first transitioned to tattoo and mark-free treatment and how they troubleshooted them.
  - Worked with each role of the UCSD Encinitas staff to answer all questions and concerns her own staff had.
  - Met with each department to address their questions and how they would manage patients treating tattoo and mark-free.

### GENERATED STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES (FREE-BREATHING AND DIBH)

2.
  - Set-up
  - Simulation
  - Treatment
  - Troubleshooting
  - Planning

### TIME SAVING AND GROWTH



**\$7,000**  
TATTOO SUPPLIES  
SAVINGS

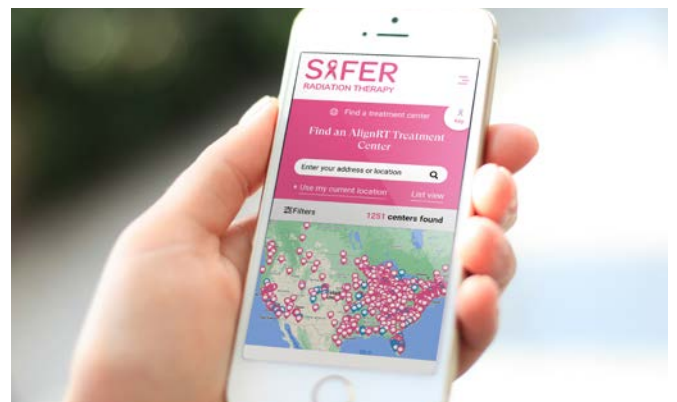
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Patients referred directly to UCSD  
from [saferradiationtherapy.com](http://saferradiationtherapy.com)

## TATTOO AND MARK-FREE EDUCATION

As a tattoo and mark-free center, UCSD Moores Cancer Center has been seen by over 225 patients and referring providers on [saferradiationtherapy.com](http://saferradiationtherapy.com). By promoting their technologies and the use of AlignRT on their website, UCSD is now the second most viewed cancer center on [saferradiationtherapy.com](http://saferradiationtherapy.com).

They will continue to educate patients on the benefits of SGRT through their website and be highlighted on [saferradiationtherapy.com](http://saferradiationtherapy.com) as a tattoo and mark-free treatment site.



*"For me, having a permanent tattoo visible in the middle of my chest...was about being able to go back to wearing the clothes I have always worn ..."*

**UC San Diego Health Breast Cancer Patient**



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