

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
JOAN KNECHEL CANCER CENTER
Weekly Status Checks**

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Policy No: ROC NU 36

Cross Referenced:

Origin: Radiation Oncology

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Authority: Medical Director

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SCOPE

All nursing staff in the Radiation Oncology Center

PURPOSE

To provide a policy on weekly status checks performed by the Radiation Oncologist and documentation of clinical findings (by both MD & nurse)

DEFINITIONS

N/A

POLICY

All patients are seen by a Radiation Oncologist each week during the course of treatment.

PROCEDURE

1. Patient weights will be done at initial consultation for baseline data and thereafter when appropriate. Blood tests will be performed per physician request.
2. Each week the Radiation Oncology Nurse assists the Radiation Oncologist in seeing patients in status check. The patient is seen immediately before or after his/her treatment, on the appropriate day. The nurse assists with any examination required.
3. The Radiation Oncologist is responsible for documenting the date of the status check and his/her findings.
4. The patient/family receives education and reinforcement of any physician instructions in symptom management. This information must be documented within the nursing notes.
5. A referral for dietary consultation should be made at this time, if not yet established during the consultation screening process and as appropriate.
6. Referral to social services will be performed as necessary by the physician and/or nurse.
7. Documentation within the Nursing care plan will be performed by the RN to record any nursing interventions.