



Procedure proton therapy for children – without anaesthesia

P a t i e n t i n f o r m a t i o n



RECEPTION

You will go to the reception desk together with your parents. Here you can wait for a while until the doctor comes to get you.





TEAM

Talking to the radiation-oncologist

The radiation-oncologist – the doctor specialised in radiation treatments – will ask a couple of questions. Do you have questions too? Ask away.





The radiation-oncologist will explain the treatment to you.

The doctor will also examine you. After that he will tell you more about the treatment that is right for you.





Apart from the radiation-oncologist a couple of other people will come to meet you.

The social worker will explain more about the different steps of the treatment and can also help your parents with practical problems.





Via her you will also hear about Radio-Robbie and the 'chain of courage'. For every treatment, type of examination or event, you will get a special bead for your necklace.

Care coordinator

The care coordinator will familiarise you with the hospital. She'll make sure that all of your questions end up at the right person.



Pediatric oncologist

There is also a pediatric oncologist who will examine you. Ask as many questions as you like.

Keeping still

It is important you can keep very still during the treatment.

CT-SIMULATION

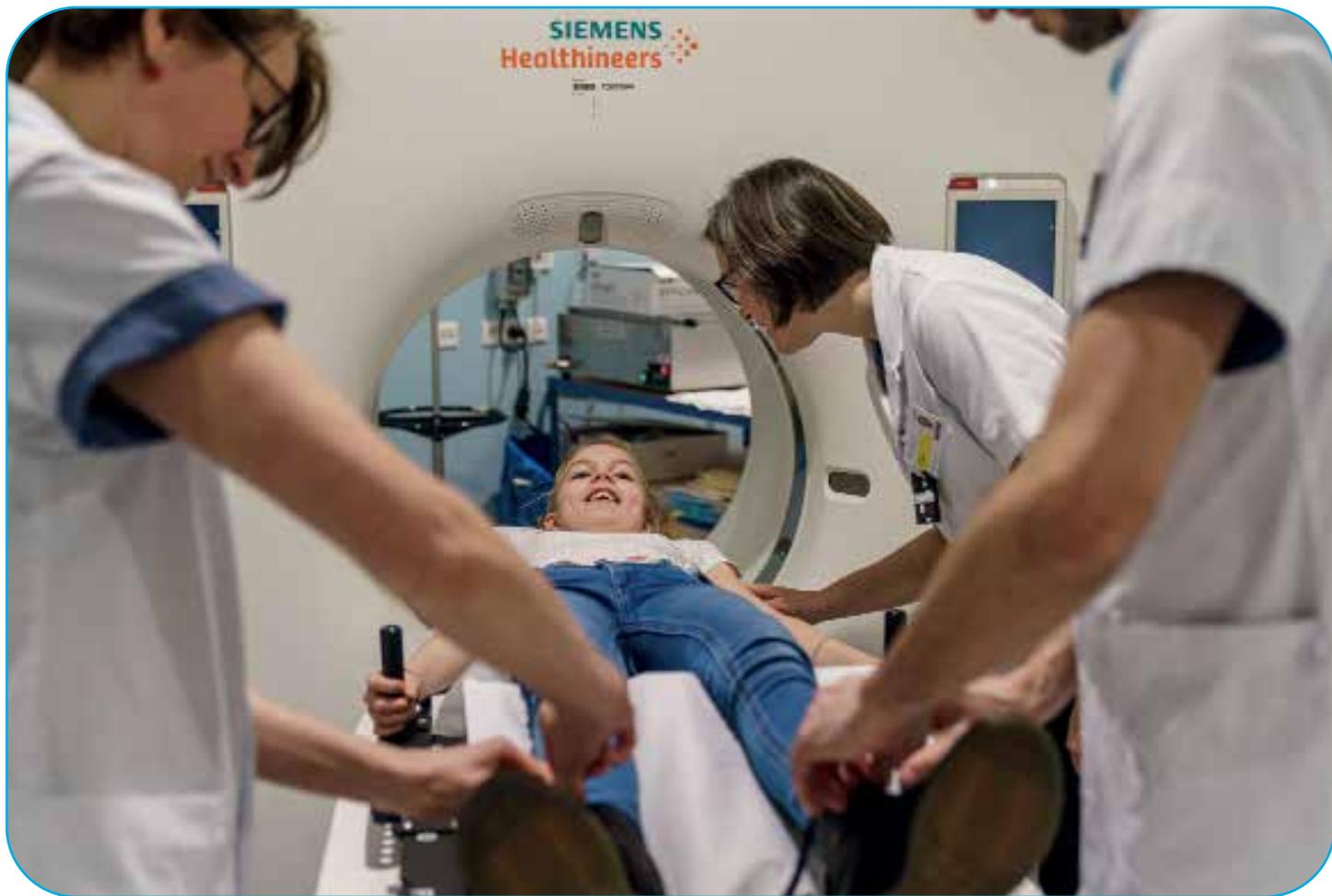
Before the treatment can be started, we need to make a scan with a CT-simulator. On a CT-simulator you have to lie in the exact same position as on the radiation machine. With the help of these images, the doctors can make a plan tailored to your treatment. This process is called the CT-simulation.





When you come to the department of radiation-oncology for your simulation, you will wait in the waiting area of the CT-simulator. The nurse will come and fetch you there. One of your parents can come along if you'd like that.





You will be put on the simulator table.

Together with the doctor, we will decide how you have to lie on this table. It is important that you can keep very still when the scan is being taken, as well as later during the treatment.





There are extra cushions to make you a bit more comfortable.





Sometimes we use a special cushion for your neck. The cushion can smell a bit strange.





When your head or neck needs to be irradiated, you will also get a mask.
Making a mask takes about 20 minutes.





The mask will feel warm. While it cools down, it takes the shape of your face or body.





It is important for you to lie in the exact same position on the table during each radiation session. That is why nurses will put marker lines or points on your mask with a felt-tip pen.

You don't have to wear a mask? We will put little tattoo points on your skin with special ink.





Contrast fluid

Sometimes contrast fluid needs to be administered for taking the images. This way the machine will show even better what is happening inside your body. This fluid is administered via your drip or catheter.

Time for the CT-scan. While you keep very still, images will be made and you will move through the machine.





The nurse operates the machine from the room next door.





If everything goes well, you can go home. We will give you your appointments for the upcoming treatment sessions.





While you are at home, the team will look at the images of the simulation and decide how the irradiation will be performed. After one to two weeks you'll get more news about this.

Pimp your mask

Would you like to pimp your mask? If that is what you want, we can put a nice drawing on it.





TREATMENT

The first time you come in for your treatment, you register at the reception. There they will tell you which waiting room you can go to.





You can wait in the waiting room together with your parents until the nurse comes to get you for your treatment.

The nurse takes you to the treatment area, in the meantime your parents wait in the waiting room. One of your parents can come along the first time if you'd like that. You enter the treatment area through a long corridor. Here you can pick out a fun drawing that will appear on the wall during the treatment. You can also choose some music or a story.





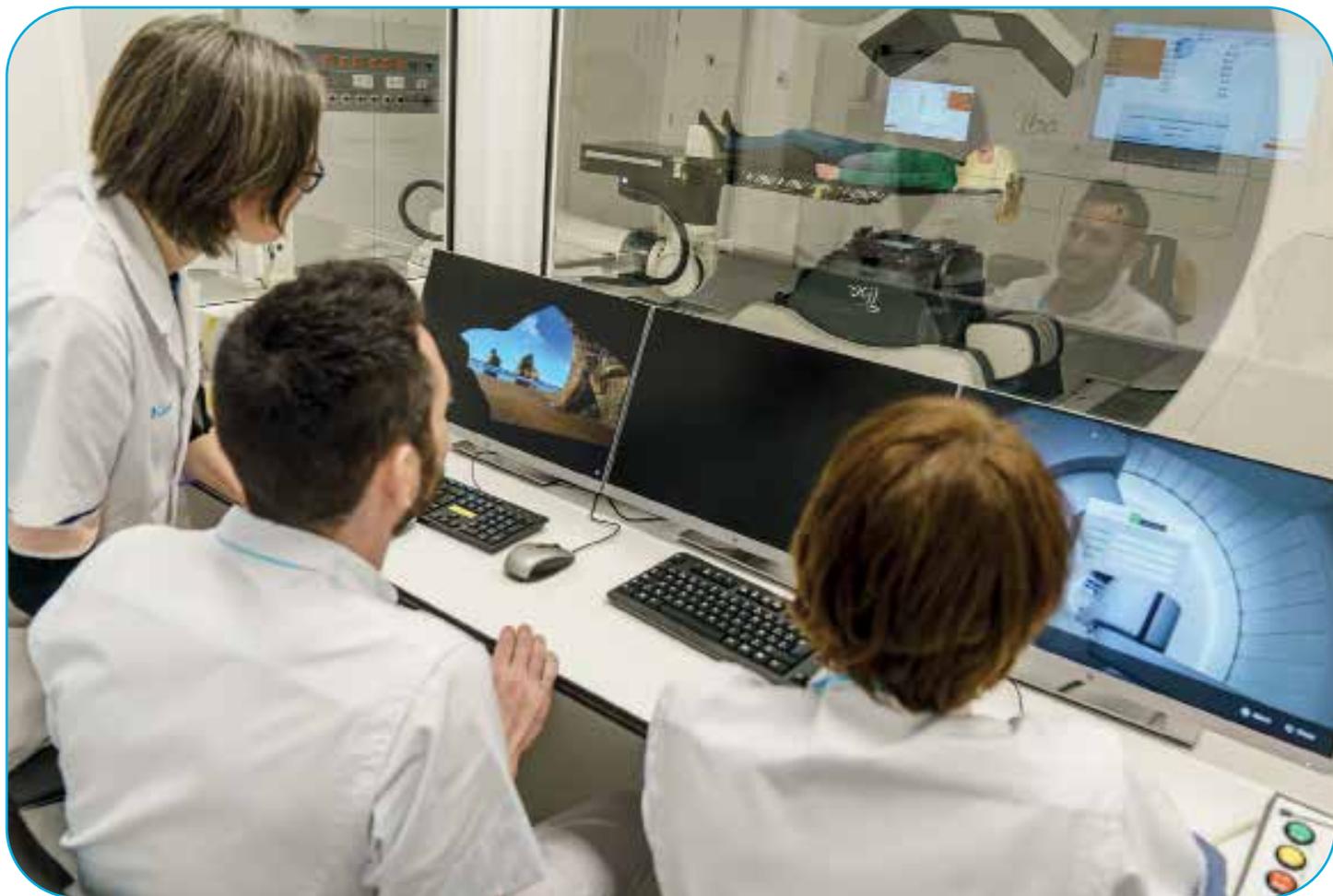
You will be put on the table in the same position as during the simulation.





If you have a mask, this will be put on again.





First the nurse will make a few images to make sure you're in the correct position.





Once everything is ready for the treatment, the nurse will go to the treatment control room, next to the treatment room. From here, the nurse can see and hear you all the time.





During the irradiation the machine will move around. The table will also move sometimes.





You can't feel the radiation.

You'll be in the treatment room for about an hour. Once the radiation is finished, we take you back to your parents in the waiting room. After that, you can go home again.





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