

# RADIOTHERAPY FACT SHEET: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

As we come together to advocate for individuals living with cancer we can share these important facts about radiotherapy. With One Voice for Radiotherapy, we can emphasize the essential role of radiotherapy in treating cancer, and highlight the need to improve access globally.

#### WHAT IS RADIOTHERAPY?

Radiotherapy, or radiation therapy, is a cancer treatment that uses beams of high-energy to kill cancer cells and shrink tumors. Radiotherapy can be used alone or in combination with other treatments like surgery or chemotherapy.



# MOST PEOPLE WITH CANCER NEED RADIOTHERAPY

Over half of people with cancer need radiotherapy including 1 in 3 children diagnosed with cancer 1, 2



### RADIOTHERAPY CAN CURE CANCERS

Radiotherapy contributes to nearly half of all cancer cures<sup>3</sup>



# LACK OF ACCESS TO RADIOTHERAPY IS A GLOBAL PROBLEM

Over 200 million people live in a country with no access to radiotherapy <sup>4</sup>



## RADIOTHERAPY CAN SAVE MORE LIVES

One million more lives could be saved by improving access to radiotherapy 5, 6



#### MORE HIGHLY SKILLED PROFESSIONALS ARE NEEDED

More than 40 countries in Asia and Africa do not have even one radiotherapy doctor<sup>7</sup>

#### **REFERENCES**

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