

What Can Gamma Knife Radiosurgery Treat?

- ▲ Metastatic brain tumors (tumors within the brain from a primary site elsewhere in the body)
- ▲ Primary tumors such as meningiomas, pituitary tumors, acoustic neuromas, certain gliomas (tumors originating within the brain itself)
- ▲ Functional disorders such as trigeminal neuralgia (facial pain), cluster headaches and essential tremor
- ▲ Arteriovenous malformations (abnormal blood vessels)

Who Determines If Gamma Knife Radiosurgery Is Appropriate?

Medical necessity can be determined by a neurosurgeon, radiation oncologist or other medical specialist after evaluating a prospective patient's medical condition. Treatment options are then determined and discussed with the patient and family, so an informed decision can be made.



Who We Are...

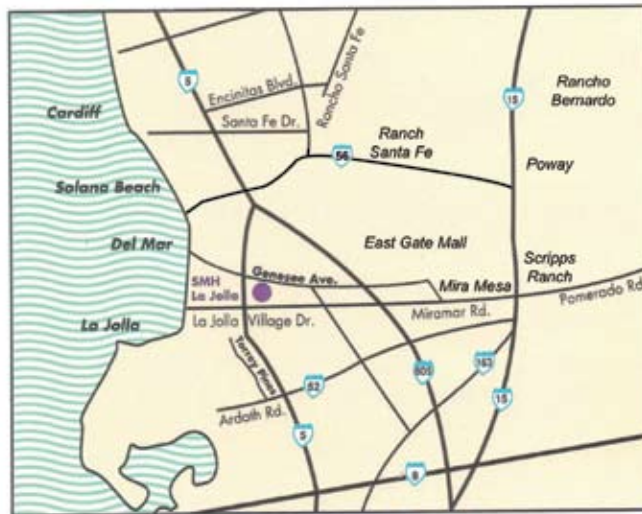
San Diego Gamma Knife Center was opened as a Neurosurgical Center of Excellence in 1994. We are the most experienced radiosurgery center in San Diego.

The Center operates as part of the Neurosciences Department at Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla, and Scripps Cancer Center, Stevens Division, who both provide diagnosis, treatment and support for a full range of neurological disorders.

Where We Are...

San Diego Gamma Knife Center is located on the campus of Scripps Memorial Hospital at the Genesee Avenue exit off Interstate 5 in La Jolla, California. It is about 12 miles north of downtown San Diego.

The Center is in a beautiful setting adjacent to the University of California San Diego campus, about two miles east of the ocean.



San Diego Gamma Knife Center

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San Diego
Gamma Knife
Center



Ask us ...

Clinical questions: nurse@sdgkc.com

Insurance or billing questions: insurance@sdgkc.com

Spanish-speaking questions: espanol@sdgkc.com

SAN DIEGO GAMMA KNIFE CENTER



MINIMALLY INVASIVE BRAIN SURGERY

A BETTER CHOICE

Minimally Invasive Brain Surgery

Gamma Knife® radiosurgery is a minimally invasive surgical technique that complements the surgeon's scalpel with a single, high dose of gamma radiation. Diseased tissue receives a precisely-focused destructive dose, while little radiation is absorbed by adjacent, normal brain tissue. The Gamma Knife is a revolutionary breakthrough in brain surgery technology with benefits that include:

- ▲ Superior outcomes
- ▲ High degree of safety and effectiveness
- ▲ No incisions
- ▲ No general anesthesia
- ▲ No hair loss or scarring

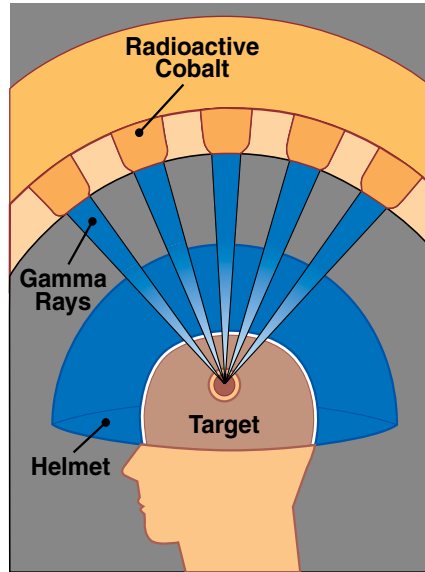
Gamma Knife Radiosurgery Advantages

- ▲ Designed specifically to treat brain disorders, thereby providing greater accuracy than other radiosurgery systems
- ▲ Performed in a single session
- ▲ Bloodless, virtually painless with rapid return to daily activities
- ▲ High patient acceptance and effectiveness with essentially no mortality after treatment of over 400,000 patients worldwide
- ▲ Fewer complications than open craniotomy
- ▲ Can be used in many inoperable cases
- ▲ Can be used in conjunction with conventional surgery or as a therapeutic radiation boost
- ▲ Can replace conventional brain surgery for some brain tumors, vascular malformations and functional disorders
- ▲ Can be used when prior surgery or radiation therapy has failed to control the disease
- ▲ Gamma Knife is the only method specifically indicated by the FDA for treatment of brain metastases

Gamma Knife® is a registered trademark of Elekta, Inc.

How the Treatment Works

A Gamma Knife treatment works by altering the DNA within the cells of the diseased tissue, so they can no longer reproduce. The majority of brain tumors



selected for treatment will stop growing or disappear over time. Gamma Knife Radiosurgery may be as effective as conventional neurosurgery in some cases and more effective in others.

Gamma Knife is the Gold Standard of radiosurgery

systems as documented in more peer-reviewed medical literature than all other systems combined.

You Are Your Own Advocate

We recognize the importance of the patient's contribution to medical decision making and the healing process. Here are some useful suggestions:

- ▲ Maintain a positive relationship with your doctor.
- ▲ Know and understand your diagnosis. Ask questions, get clarification.
- ▲ Familiarize yourself with all treatment options.
- ▲ Maintain a medical file.
- ▲ Get a second opinion.

Insurance Coverage

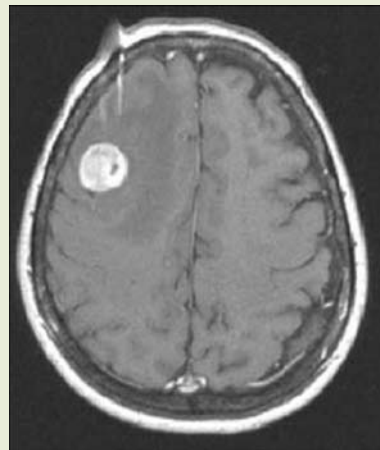
Gamma Knife radiosurgery costs less than traditional brain surgery. It is covered by Medicare, PPOs, HMOs and indemnity insurance plans. We can help with your insurance.

Our Expert Medical Staff

Our staff of neurosurgeons, radiation oncologists, medical physicists and other specialists are the most experienced clinicians in the San Diego area, having treated over 3,000 patients and pioneered radiosurgery in the region. They are available to help evaluate your particular medical condition.

Gamma Knife Surgery Results

The majority of brain tumors selected for treatment will disappear or stop growing over time. Results may vary.



Metastatic brain tumor before treatment.



Metastatic brain tumor 4 months after treatment.