Cancer Treatment Timeline

2022

Next Generation of mRNA Cancer Vaccines

The COVID-19 pandemic illustrated the cost-effective and mass production benefits of mRNA vaccines. The new vaccine technology will improve management and prevention of difficult-to-treat cancers.

2021

Molecular Profiling

The American Society of Clinical Oncology recognizes molecular profiling as the most significant cancer advancement of 2021. The technology identifies epigenetic profiles and molecular features of a disease, matching select targeted therapies to the patient.

2017

FDA Approves First Cancer Gene Therapy

CAR-T causes complete remission in the youngest patients with acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

2014

Analysis of DNA in Cancer

The National Human Genome Research Institute and others begin to analyze cancer DNA to classify malignancies by tumor characteristics and molecular abnormalities.

2011

Tumor Treating Fields

The FDA approves a new device that uses electric currents to disrupt cancer cell division and growth.

2001

DaVinci Surgery System for Cancer

A patient with prostate cancer undergoes the first robotically assisted radical prostatectomy.

1990s

CAR-T Cell Trials Begin in Humans

The new therapy reprograms immune system cells to identify and destroy cancer.

1986

FDA Approves Alfa-Interferon

This marks the first approval of an immunotherapy drug to fight cancer.

1953

Chemotherapy Cures Solid Tumor

Radium is used to treat and cure two skin cancer patients.

1890s

Development of First X-Ray

German physicist Wilhelm Rontgen creates first X-ray picture, and Marie Curie discovers radioactive element radium, making it the first radiation cancer therapy.

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