

AANSCNSASTRO Definition of Stereotactic Radiosurgery

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(Reaffirmed, November 2009)

**(Approved by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons, the Congress of Neurological Surgeons, and the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology)**

Stereotactic Radiosurgery (SRS) is a distinct discipline that utilizes externally generated ionizing radiation in certain cases to inactivate or eradicate (a) defined target(s) in the head and spine without the need to make an incision. The target is defined by high-resolution stereotactic imaging. To assure quality of patient care the procedure involves a multidisciplinary team consisting of a neurosurgeon, radiation oncologist, and medical physicist.

SRS typically is performed in a single session, using a rigidly attached stereotactic guiding device, other immobilization technology and/or a stereotactic image-guidance system, but can be performed in a limited number of sessions, up to a maximum of five.

Technologies that are used to perform SRS include linear accelerators, particle beam accelerators, and multisource Cobalt 60 units. In order to enhance precision, various devices may incorporate robotics and real time imaging.