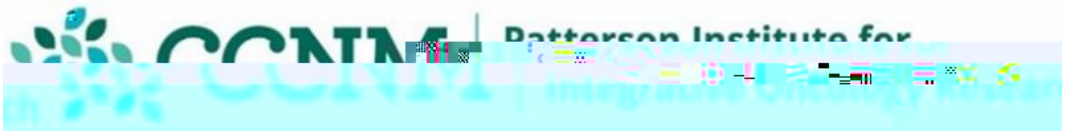

cancer, esophageal cancer, gastric (stomacÎ ʁ ᴀ ᵐ] ᴎ ent

What is Hyperthermia?

Hyperthermia as a medical treatment refers to heating the body, or part of the body, to higher than typical temperatures, usually 39-44°C. Locoregional hyperthermia (LRHT) is a particular type of hyperthermia that only heats a part of the body (where a tumor is located) to high temperatures, ideally 41-43°C.

What is LRHT used for?

LRHT is used by some people with cancer with the goal of improving the effects of other cancer treatments like chemotherapy and radiotherapy. It is also sometimes used as palliative treatment.

LRHT is <u>not</u> to be used as a cure for cancer. LRHT should not be considered an alternative for chemotherapy or any other cancer treatments.

What does the research say?

Well over 100 studies have looked at the effect of LRHT on people with cancer. Many of these studies looked at whether it is safe and feasible, but others have looked at how effective it is. Hyperthermia appears to be most effective when used with other treatments (usually chemotherapy or radiotherapy). There is limited research on its use as a sole therapy. In general, there is evidence that LRHT can improve treatment outcomes (i.e. provide better tumor shrinking, better survival, or lower recurrence rates) in patients with: breast cancer that has returned to the breast/ chest wall, cervical

transplant, recent surgery, poor circulation in the area, or previous radiation to the area. You should discuss the safety of the treatment with your healthcare provider.

Side effects are generally mild and include:

- Discomfort during treatment
- Mild pain
- Redness to the area
- Skin burns
- Subcutaneous fibrosis
- Deep burns (to the layer under the skin) have rarely been experienced

LRHT can be used alongside chemotherapy and radiation therapy. LRHT has not been well studied with immunotherapy or targeted therapies, and thus no comment can be made regarding these combinations at this time. There are no known interactions with other co