



Set up in 2008 with the IAEA's support, El Salvador's only brachytherapy centre is located within the Cancer Institute "Dr. Narciso Díaz Bazán".



1 The Cancer Institute "Dr. Narciso Díaz Bazán" is El Salvador's only brachytherapy treatment facility for women affected by uterine cancer.

2 Plaque of El Salvador's Cancer Institute "Dr. Narciso Díaz Bazán".



3 Patients accompanied by family members waiting for their turn for treatment.



4 Dr. Gonzalo Beltran Castro, Director, with Dr. Reynaldo Castillo, Chief of Brachytherapy.

of Hope

by Nancy Falcon Castro/UNIDO



To date, over 1000 women affected by cervical cancer have received treatment in the centre.



5 Dr. Castro and head nurse Jasmin Franco Mejia reviewing the list of patients awaiting brachytherapy treatment.



6 Mabel Jesenia Pérez González, 38, a mother of two, waiting to start treatment.



7 Mabel with Dr. Castillo and head nurse Jasmin Mejia.



8 María Emelda Molina Sanchez (left), Medical Physicist, and Dr. Alexander Molina Martínez (right), radiation oncologist, mark a patient's x-ray. These points are digitized to develop a treatment plan.



9 Dr. Molina, digitizing a patient's brachytherapy treatment plan to determine the optimal dose to prescribe.



10 Dr. Castillo and Dr. Molina evaluating the treatment plan of a patient with uterine cancer.



11 Dr. Sierra, anesthesiologist, prepares a patient for brachytherapy.



12 A nurse monitors a patient's treatment by closed-circuit television. She uses an intercom to inform the patient, lying in the radiation shielded treatment room, about the course of treatment.



13 Rosa Imelda Valladares, 42, mother of three, talks to Dr. Castillo. In April 2009, Rosa Imelda received her final brachytherapy treatment. Medical examinations show no signs of recurring cancer.



14 Sonia Etelvina Orellana de García, 47. In December 2009, Sonia had her first check up following brachytherapy treatment. Nine months later (June 2010), she received the good news: the treatment course was successful.

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