

Shorter Course Of Radiation For Early-Stage Breast Cancer May Be Underused.

[NBC Nightly News](#) (12/11, story 6, 2:35, Williams) reported in continuing coverage of the study “finding that many women are getting radiation therapy for much longer than they need.” NBC (Snyderman) added, “A new study finds a shorter course of treatment is not being used despite being just as effective.” And “at this San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium today, experts say despite strong evidence, doctors have been slow to change how they treat patients.” The story concludes by saying that patients should “ask their doctors, can a shorter course of radiation treatments work for me?”

[MedPage Today](#) (12/12, Phend) reports on a study published online in the Journal of the American Medical Association finding that shorter courses of radiation are increasingly being used for early-stage breast cancer, having risen from “10.6% in 2008 to 34.5% in 2013.” Yet, just 21.2 percent of those eligible for the “shorter, more intense regimen” are receiving it.