

# Electron Beams

In the Beams block users can manage all the beams, as well as any blocks, boluses, or other devices included with them, included in the plan. In addition, new beams can be created and added to the plan from here.

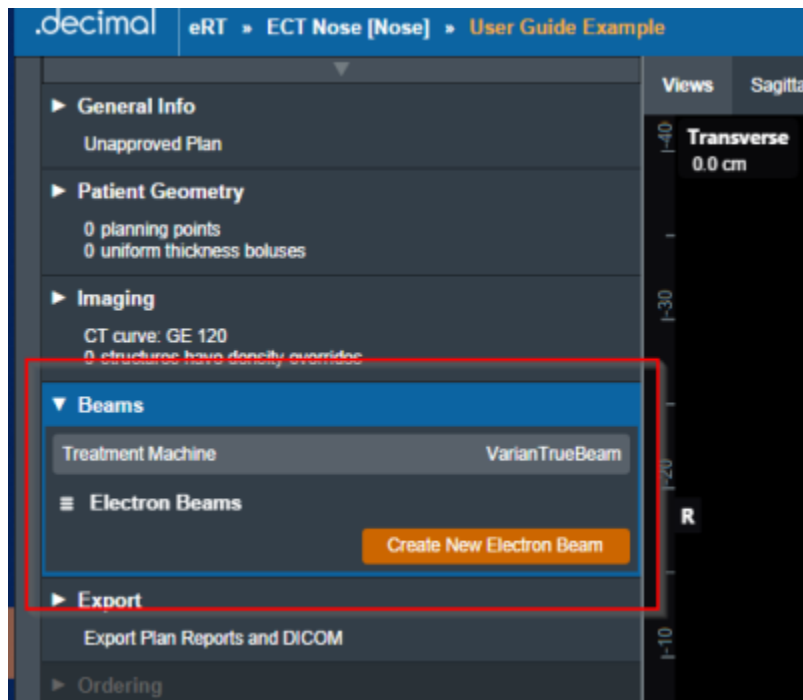


Fig. 1: Beams Block

## Managing Existing Beams

The electronRT application will list all beams included in a plan. For each of these existing beams, selecting it will show a summary of the details for that beam. Additionally, as shown below, the user has three options for the selected beam:

- **Clone:** Create an identical copy of the selected beam and add it to the plan.
- **Edit:** Open the editing dialog to change any editable property of the beam.
- **Delete:** Remove this beam from the plan.

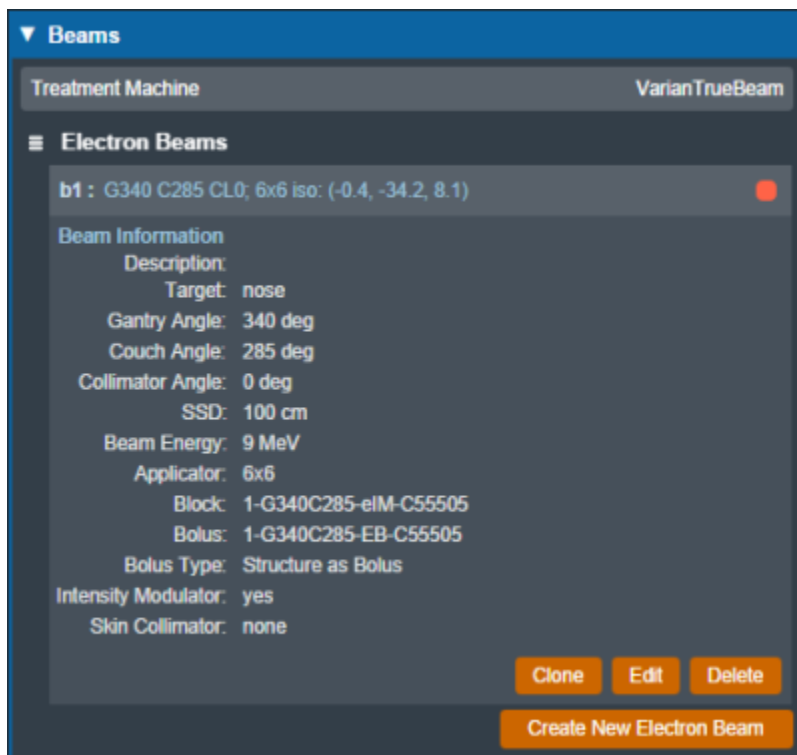


Fig. 2: Existing Beam Example

The editing dialog allows the user to edit any property of the beams that is defined in the “Structure of a Beam” section below. All changes made in this section will be saved to the beam once the user selects “Done”.

**Edit Electron Beam**

▼ **General**

Color: [Color Picker]

Label:

☒ automatically generate label

Geometric Target: nose ▼

Description:

► **Approach** G340 deg, C285 deg, CL0 deg

► **Energy Selection** energy: 9 MeV

► **Normalization** absolute dose: 50.0 Gy

► **Collimation** applicator: 6x6, no skin collimator

► **Bolus** use\_structure\_as\_bolus

Done Cancel

Fig. 3: Beam Editing

## Creating New Beams

Selecting “Create New Electron Beam” directs the user to a similar section as editing an existing beam with the exception that some blocks are disabled until prior required steps are completed. An in-depth

explanation of each of these sections is defined in the “Structure of a Beam” section below.

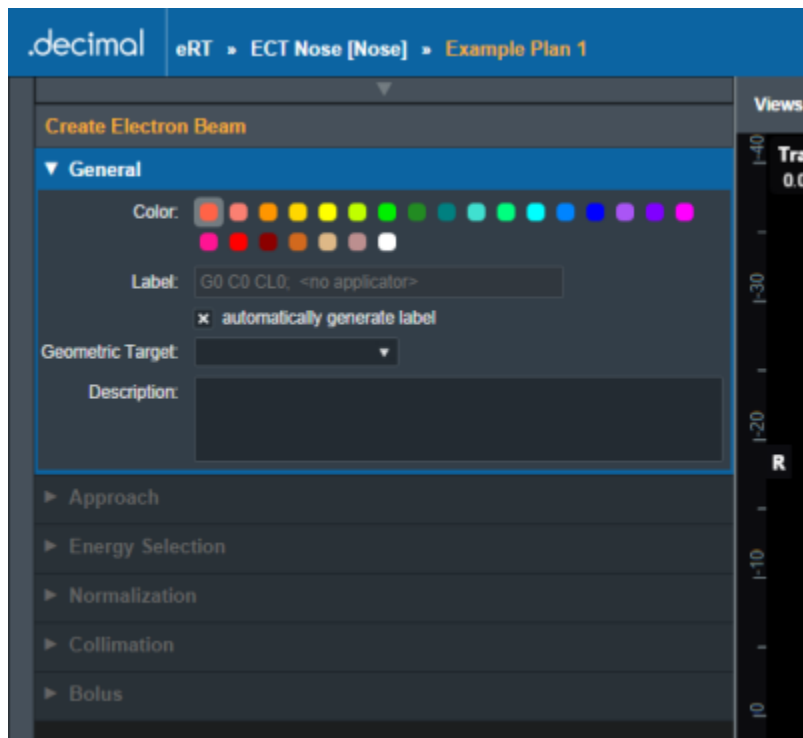


Fig. 4: Creating a New Beam

## Structure of a Beam

### General

In the “General” Section of the Beams block allows the user to set the following fields for the beam:

- **Color:** Set the color for this beam, this is used for displays, graphs and beam lists in the User Interface.
- **Label:** Open the editing dialog to change any editable property of the beam. By default, the “automatically generate label” option is enabled for new beams, un-selecting this option allows the user to manually name this beam.

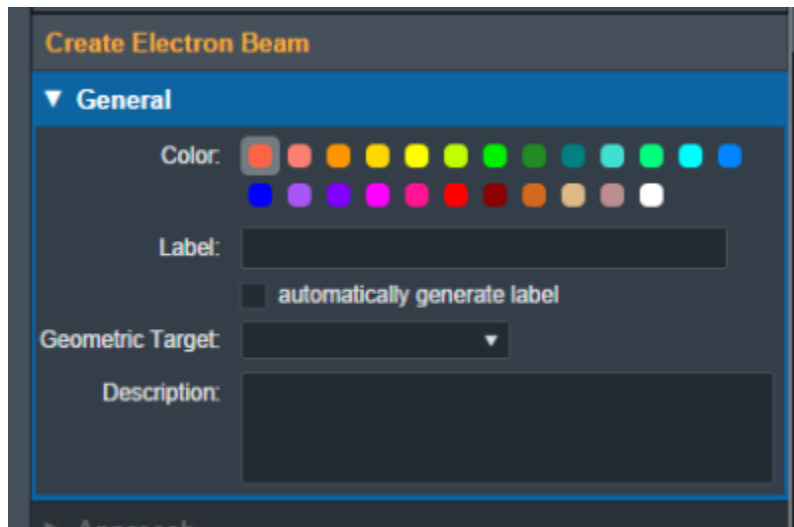


Fig. 5: General Block

- **Geometric Target:** Sets the target for this beam from a list of possible targets from the structure list.

Once a geometric target has been set, the application will attempt to automatically calculate and set:

1. **Beam Approach:** A computed best guess at an orthogonal beam approach. The gantry or couch angles will be snapped to 0 degrees if:
  1. The gantry angle is less than 5.0 or greater than 355.0 degrees
  2. The couch angle is less than 10.0 and greater than -10.0 degrees
2. **Beam Energy:** The minimum commissioned energy to reach the distal edge of the target
3. **Block Size:** The smallest fitting block size enabled for the selected treatment machine

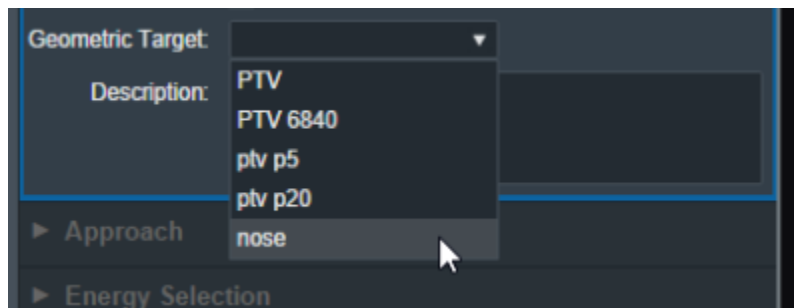


Fig. 6: Geometric Target Options

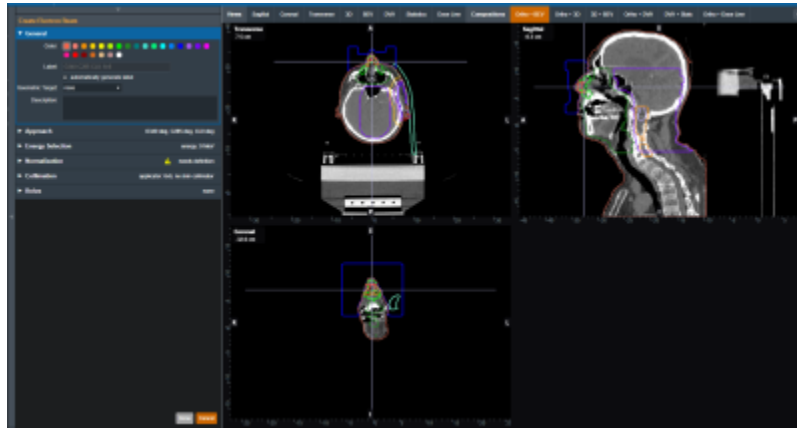


Fig. 7: UI updated with the new target

- **Description:** An optional description for the beam.

Once the beam has a color, label, and target the user will be able to move on to the next block in the beam creation if this is a new beam.

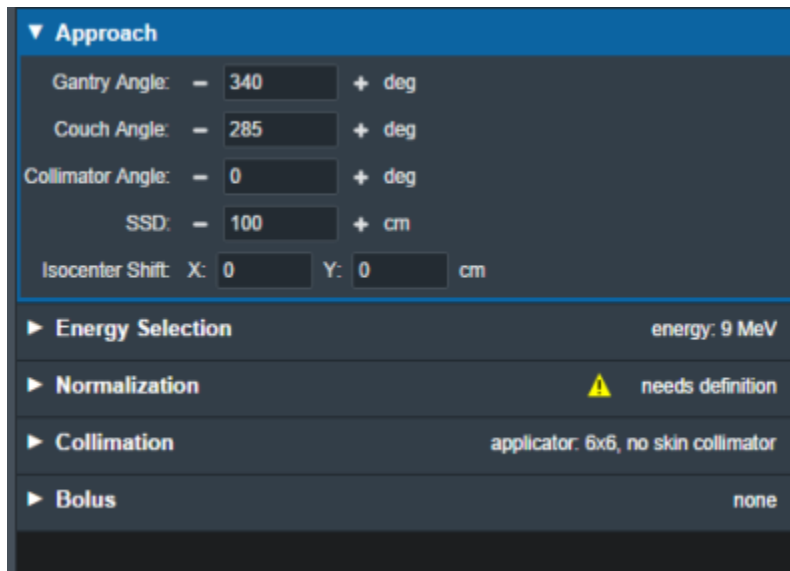
## Approach

The Approach block is where the user can control the values for how the beam and dose reaches the patient. Here the user can set:

- **Gantry Angle:** Sets the Gantry angle for the beam.
- **Couch Angle:** Sets the Couch angle for the beam.
- **Collimator Angle:** Sets the Collimator angle for the beam.
- **SSD:** Sets the Source-to-surface distance.

As the values are set you should see the image of the beam update in the UI as new values are set in the "Approach" Block.

**Note:** If any of these values cause a collision with the patient you will receive a warning and the beam will be unable to be created/saved until the issue is cleared or the warning is overridden.



**▼ Approach**

Gantry Angle: - 340 + deg

Couch Angle: - 285 + deg

Collimator Angle: - 0 + deg

SSD: - 100 + cm

Isocenter Shift: X: 0 Y: 0 cm

► **Energy Selection** energy: 9 MeV

► **Normalization** ⚠ needs definition

► **Collimation** applicator: 6x6, no skin collimator

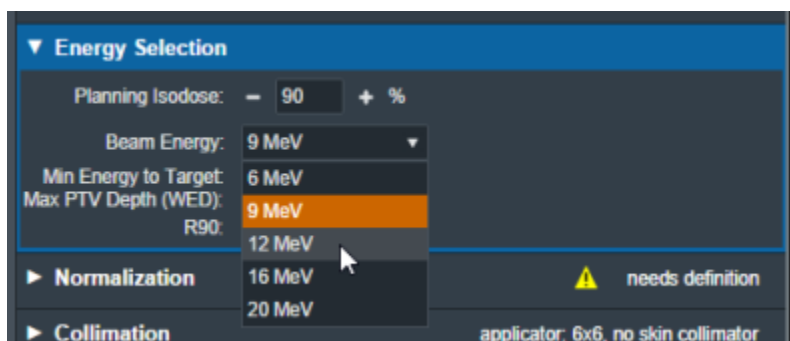
► **Bolus** none

Fig. 8: Approach Block

## Energy Selection

In this block the user can set what energies are used for the dose calculations of this beam. Users are able to set:

- **Planning Isodose:** The user can set the planning isodose level for the distal edge of the selected target.
- **Beam Energy:** The user is able to select an energy for this beam. This list of energies is derived from the machine data in the site configuration.



**▼ Energy Selection**

Planning Isodose: - 90 + %

Beam Energy: 9 MeV ▼

Min Energy to Target: 6 MeV

Max PTV Depth (WED): 9 MeV

R90: 12 MeV

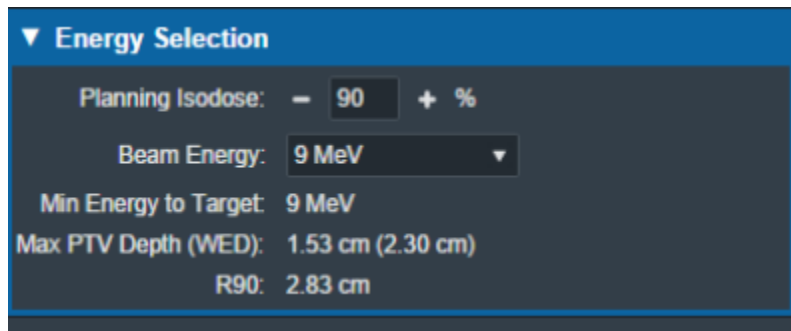
► **Normalization** ⚠ needs definition

► **Collimation** applicator: 6x6, no skin collimator

Fig. 9: Energy selection block

This block also displays the following values that are calculated and are not editable.

- **Min Energy to Target:** The minimum energy necessary for the selected target.
- **Max PTV Depth (WED):** The maximum water equivalent depth.
- **R90:** The computed R90 value for this beam.



▼ Energy Selection

Planning Isodose: - 90 + %

Beam Energy: 9 MeV ▼

Min Energy to Target: 9 MeV

Max PTV Depth (WED): 1.53 cm (2.30 cm)

R90: 2.83 cm

Fig. 10: Beams Block

## Block

Here the user can add or edit an electron block for this beam, more details on electron blocks can be found in the [Electron Block Creation](#) section below.

## Bolus

Here the user can add or edit a bolus for this beam, more details on bolus creation can be found in the [Electron Bolus Creation](#) section below.

From:  
<http://apps.dotdecimal.com/> - **decimal App Documentation**

Permanent link:  
[http://apps.dotdecimal.com/doku.php?id=electronrt:userguide:tutorials:electron\\_beams&rev=1607094359](http://apps.dotdecimal.com/doku.php?id=electronrt:userguide:tutorials:electron_beams&rev=1607094359)

Last update: **2021/07/29 18:24**

