



Proton Therapy

At The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's Cancer Center, we always think about what our patients' lives will be like after treatment. That's why we're so proud to be one of the few pediatric cancer centers in the country to offer proton therapy, an extremely precise form of radiation therapy that results in fewer side effects and complications than conventional radiation. This advanced treatment is available to our patients through our affiliation with Penn Medicine's Roberts Proton Therapy Center.



Benefits of Proton Therapy

- **Minimal Side Effects:** When a patient is treated with conventional radiation therapy, the radiation often harms healthy tissue and organs near the tumor site. Proton therapy uses a highly precise beam to target radiation directly at the tumor site, minimizing damage to nearby healthy tissue and organs and greatly reducing the risk of both acute and long-term side effects.

This precision makes proton therapy especially useful for treating brain tumors, cancers of the head and neck, and tumors located near the spinal cord, heart or lungs.

- **Fewer Complications:** Because proton therapy is so well-tolerated, children often require fewer medical interventions, procedures and hospital stays to treat acute side effects than if they had been treated with conventional radiation.

State-of-the-art Facility

All proton therapy treatments are received in the Roberts Proton Therapy Center, located across from CHOP's Main Building in Penn Medicine's Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine. As one of the first proton therapy centers in the nation designed with pediatric patients in mind, the facility features five treatment rooms and a dedicated waiting room and anesthesia room that were designed specifically to meet the needs of our patients and families. Children treated at the center are cared for by a team of radiation oncologists, radiation therapists, anesthesiologists, nurses and other pediatric professionals who understand the unique needs of children with cancer.

World-class Resources

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's Cancer Center is a world leader in treating pediatric cancer. All children receiving proton therapy have round-the-clock access to Cancer Center oncologists and other Children's Hospital specialists. The team focuses on providing superb medical care for the patient as well as comprehensive emotional support for the entire family.

Personalized Treatment Plans

The Cancer Center provides therapies specifically tailored to a child's particular illness, and proton therapy is just one of the many treatment options available. The CHOP team will work closely with each family to see if proton therapy is appropriate for their child.

Groundbreaking Research

Every child treated at the Roberts Center will have the opportunity to enroll in studies examining the long-term neuropsychological and developmental effects of proton therapy. Results of these studies could help doctors refine and improve treatments for future generations of children.



Referring Physicians: For more information on proton therapy, or to make a referral, call 215-615-5678. To speak with an oncologist, call 1-888-ONC-CHOP (662-2467).

Families: For more information on proton therapy, call 215-615-5678.

Information on proton therapy and other Cancer Center programs is also available at cancer.chop.edu.

The Team

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