Tumors most appropriate for proton therapy include:

- Brain tumors such as medulloblastoma, craniopharyngioma, gliomas and ependyomas
- Connective and other soft tissue tumors (rhabdomyosarcoma)
- Eye tumors (i.e. retinoblastoma)
- Thyroid gland tumors
- Other endocrine glands and related structures
- Tumors on the spine or spinal cord
- Ewings sarcoma

Research has shown that proton therapy can significantly reduce the risk of developmental and growth abnormalities, loss in IQ points and treatment induced cancers with standard X-ray radiation.


Brain tumor treatment with X-rays/IMRT.

With X-rays/IMRT, much of the healthy tissue and critical organs surrounding the tumor are spared from receiving additional radiation. Some of the child’s normal brain tissue receives 50% less radiation than with X-rays/IMRT. Grey/white area indicates no radiation exposure.

Brain tumor treatment with protons.

With proton therapy, much of the healthy tissue and critical organs surrounding the tumor are spared from receiving additional radiation. Some of the child’s normal brain tissue receives 50% less radiation than with X-rays/IMRT. Grey/white area indicates no radiation exposure.
Be prepared when talking to a doctor about your child’s treatment options, including proton therapy.

The first step in your child’s treatment plan is to discuss your options, including proton therapy, with your child’s doctor. Your child’s doctor may not be as familiar with proton therapy as other treatment options so bring this sheet with you.

Below are a few questions to help you discuss proton therapy with your child’s doctor:

- Is proton therapy an option for my child? What are the pros and cons?
- How does proton therapy compare with my child’s other options?
- What short-term and long-term side effects or complications can I expect with each treatment option?
- How long would my child’s treatment last—at each appointment and the entire course?
- Where do I take my child to receive proton therapy?
- Once we have decided a course of treatment, what are the next steps?

Frequently asked questions:

Can proton therapy be used in conjunction with other forms of cancer treatment?

Yes. Depending on the diagnosis, proton therapy may be used in combination with conventional radiation, chemotherapy, hormone therapy and/or as a follow-up to surgery.

Is proton therapy covered by most insurance plans?

Proton therapy is covered by most insurance providers nationwide and the U.S. Medicare program. The financial counselors at ProCure will work with you and your insurance provider to get you all the coverage information you may need.

What will my child feel like during the course of proton therapy?

There is no discomfort or sensation during the actual radiation treatment. Most pediatric patients have few, or very mild, side effects from proton therapy. If your child experiences any side effects they can be managed with medications, if necessary.

Proton therapy is a precise, effective option with fewer side effects than traditional radiation therapy.

To learn more about the benefits of proton therapy or to request a consultation, call our centers at:

**ProCure Proton Therapy Center in New Jersey**
877-967-7628

Visit us on the web using your smart phone.