

PRECISION *of* PROTONS **POWER** *of* CARING

**A guide to proton therapy
for patients with cancer.**

ProCure
Proton Therapy Center
Precision Therapy. Passionate Care.



WELCOME

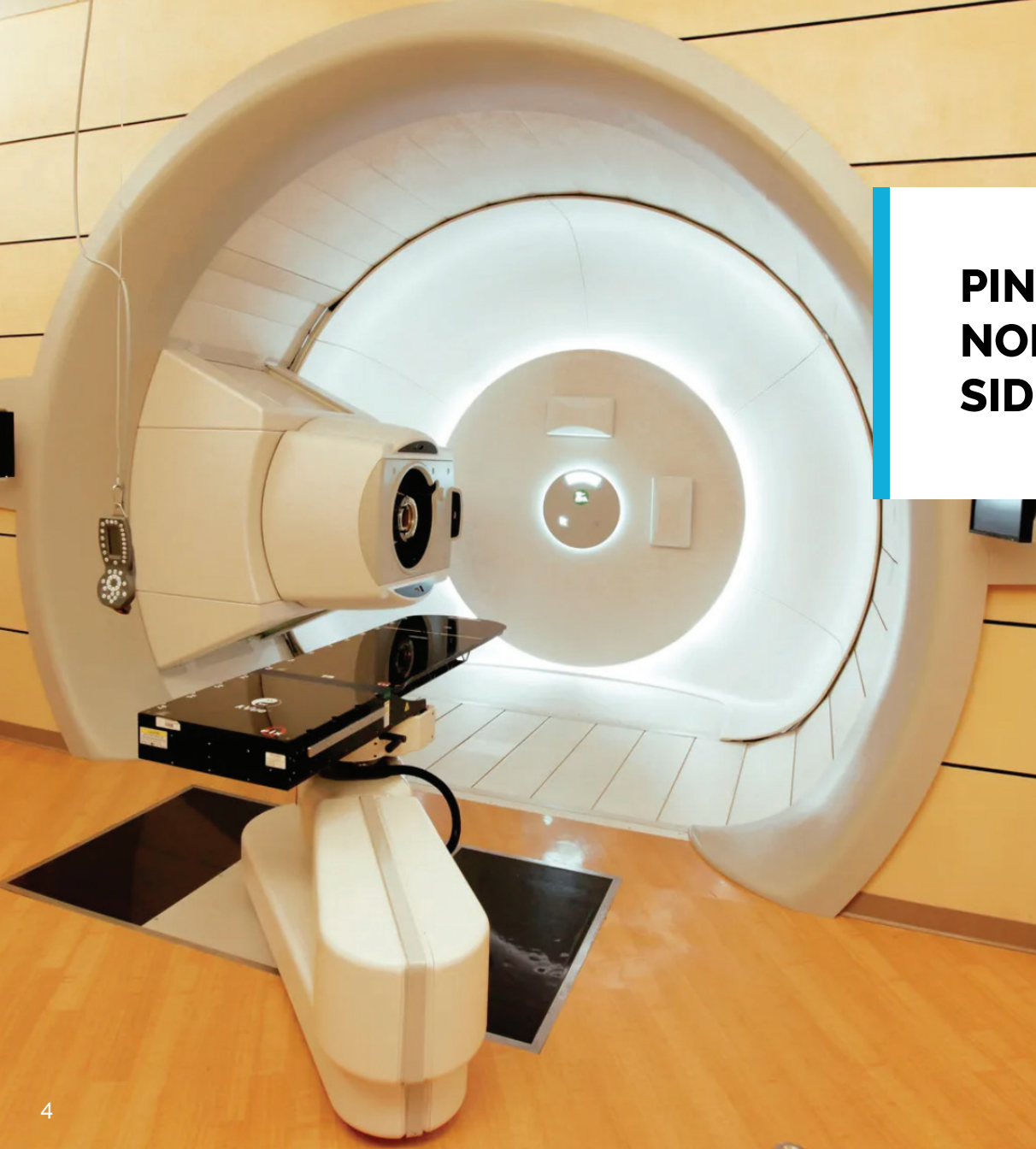
to PROCURE
PROTON THERAPY
CENTER

We are the first freestanding proton therapy center in the tri-state area and offer specialized expertise in treating a range of different cancers, including complex cases. Since 2012, we have combined innovative technologies that deliver proton therapy in a welcoming, healing environment to more than 8,000 patients.

To find out more, please call the center at 732-357-2600, or visit us at ProCure.com.

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PINPOINT PRECISION. NON-INVASIVE. FEWER SIDE EFFECTS.

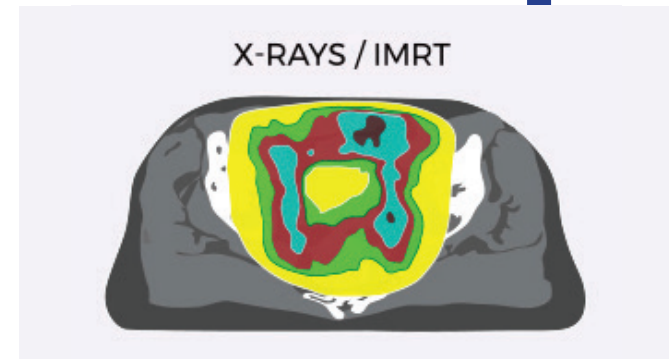
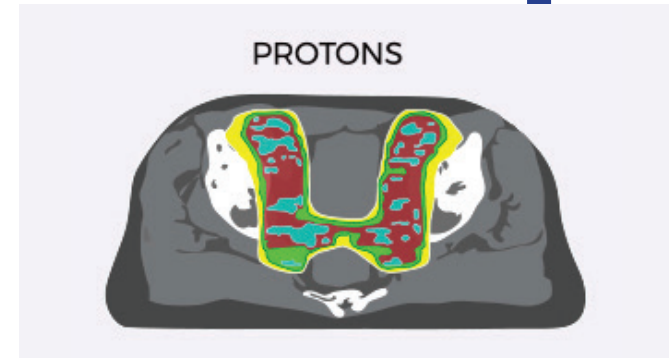
These are the hallmarks of proton therapy, an advanced form of cancer treatment that targets tumor cells while reducing radiation exposure to nearby healthy tissue.

ProCure Proton Therapy Center has been a leader in proton therapy since opening its doors in 2012. We are the most experienced proton therapy center in New Jersey and the first one to offer pencil beam scanning—the most precise form of proton therapy.

X-RAY **vs.** PROTON THERAPY

While X-rays and protons can both be effective at destroying cancer cells, there are important benefits of proton therapy:

- Unlike X-rays, protons can be precisely controlled so that most of their radiation ends up directly in the tumor. This is an especially important benefit when the tumor is located near critical organs, including the brain, heart or spinal cord.
- With standard X-ray radiation, energy is released as X-rays travel through the patient's body, both before and after they reach the tumor site, damaging healthy tissue along the path.
- Protons stop in the tumor, so there is no exit dose; therefore, proton therapy delivers a lower overall dose, resulting in a reduced risk of secondary tumors that may appear many years after radiation treatment.
- Healthy tissue beyond the tumor is protected because there is no exit dose from the proton beam.
- Proton therapy can be especially beneficial for children, who can experience more serious short- and long-term side effects from radiation than adults. Clinical studies suggest that proton therapy reduces the risk of growth and developmental problems.



Less Radiation

More Radiation



Examples of prostate tumors treated with proton therapy (above) and standard X-rays (below). In both therapies, the tumor is treated with radiation. However, with proton therapy, most of the healthy tissue surrounding the tumor is spared any additional radiation.

Q. What types of cancer does proton therapy treat?

A. Proton therapy is effective in treating these cancers as well as non-cancerous tumors:

- Prostate Cancer
- Brain Tumors
- Pediatric Cancers
- Head and Neck Tumors
- Base-of-Skull Tumors
- Tumors near the Spine
- Lung Tumors
- Esophageal Cancers
- Breast Cancers
- Lymphomas
- Testicular Cancers
- Previously Irradiated Tissue
- Sarcoma

Q. Is proton therapy experimental?

A. No, proton therapy is not experimental. Proton therapy was approved in 1988 by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to treat patients. To date, more than hundreds of thousands of people worldwide have received proton therapy at centers in Europe, Asia and the United States.

Q. Who benefits the most from proton therapy?

A. Certain patients tend to see the greatest benefit from proton therapy, including:

- Patients whose tumors are near critical organs or structures, such as the brain, bladder, rectum, heart, or spinal cord, where the precision of protons helps protect surrounding tissue
- Patients whose cancers have reoccurred
- Patients who cannot tolerate any more X-ray radiation

Proton therapy can also be used alongside other treatments—in combination with chemotherapy, as a follow-up to surgery, or together with standard X-ray radiation.

Q. What clinical studies have been/are being done to prove the effectiveness of proton therapy?

A. More and more studies show excellent results treating tumors with protons compared with alternative treatments. The amount of research being conducted on proton therapy is rapidly increasing as more centers open and more patient experiences become available.

Q. How can I find out if proton therapy is an option for me?

A. We encourage you and your doctor to contact ProCure to determine if proton therapy is the best option for you. Our medical team will assist in collecting the information needed for an evaluation, including:

- Your cancer diagnosis
- Family medical history
- Imaging records
- A referral for radiation therapy

Q. Will my insurance cover the cost of proton therapy?

A. In most cases, yes. Proton therapy is covered by many private insurance carriers, Medicare, and many state Medicaid programs. Specific levels of reimbursement depend on the state and site of service and health insurer. Our experienced financial counselors provide personalized help in navigating coverage and payment.



DOCTOR DISCUSSION CHECKLIST

It is important to consider all your options before you decide on a treatment. Since many of the tumors that can be treated with proton therapy also can be treated with X-ray radiation, these questions will help you discuss options with your doctor:

Write down a description of my cancer or my type of tumor—what it's called, where it's located, its stage and other facts that may be important in deciding treatment options.

What are my treatment choices?

What do you recommend and why?

Is proton therapy an option for me? What are the pros and cons?

How does proton therapy compare with my other options?

How long would my treatment last—at each appointment and the entire course?

What is the treatment like? Is it safe?

Will the treatment affect my daily routine (e.g., going to work, exercising)?

What short-term and long-term side effects or complications can I expect with each treatment option?

How will we know if it worked?

If my cancer comes back someday, could I have treatments again?

Where do I need to go for therapy?

How much will it cost? How much will my insurance/Medicare/Medicaid pay?

Once we have decided a course of treatment, what are the next steps?

Our **PATIENT TEAM** is available Monday through Friday to provide services that make your stay as stress-free as possible, while providing comfort to you and your loved ones. These services include:

- Concierge to assist patients with personal needs such as housing, local services, and connecting with other patients
- Medical liaison services to facilitate the management and scheduling of ancillary medical care
- Patient and family support groups
- Assistance with insurance coverage and financial management
- Engaging playroom for young children
- On-site knowledge center and library with resources for both patients and loved ones
- Dietitian to guide patients on the best nutritional plan for their treatment
- On-site social worker to help navigate the treatment journey and ensure all areas of well-being are addressed



Other amenities designed to enhance your treatment:

- Easy check-in using a key card that verifies your identity
- Comfortable patient gowns and robes
- Spacious and comfortable lobby features large windows for lots of natural light and a cozy fireplace
- Relaxing healing garden with patio tables
- Recommendations on activities, outings, and restaurants

We celebrate each patient's treatment completion with a graduation ceremony. At graduation, you will receive a diploma and a coin with a number that is unique to you.

More information on Patient Services: call **732-357-2600** or **concierge@procure.com**.



Scan here to hear some of our patient stories:



LEADERS IN RADIATION ONCOLOGY

The radiation oncologists who provide clinical care at ProCure Proton Therapy Center are members of Astera Radiation Oncology. They will plan your course of therapy, manage your clinical care, and conduct weekly check-ups to ensure that your treatment is on track.

Affiliated with hospitals throughout the New Jersey/ metro New York area, the radiation oncologists of Astera Radiation Oncology are leaders in the field and are known for clinical excellence as well as pioneering new technologies for treating cancer.

They are experienced in the delivery of 3-Dimensional Conformal Radiation Therapy (3DCRT), Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT), Gamma Knife Radiosurgery (Stereotactic Radiosurgery), Stereotactic Radiotherapy, Tomotherapy, High Dose Rate Brachytherapy (HDR), Low Dose Rate (LDR) Brachytherapy and proton therapy. With specializations in brain, head, and neck, breast, lung, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, prostate, and pediatric cancers, Astera Radiation Oncology has the expertise to provide the highest level of medical care to patients.

TREATMENT TIMELINE

1 GETTING TREATED AT PROCURE PROTON THERAPY CENTER

At ProCure Proton Therapy Center, you'll benefit from the precision of proton therapy and the power of passionate care. To get started, call (732) 357-2600 to request a consultation.

Our Intake Staff will coordinate medical record exchanges and collect information needed to evaluate your individual treatment needs.

2 GETTING STARTED

If it's determined that you are a good candidate for proton therapy, we'll contact you to schedule a consultation with one of our radiation oncologists. Next, we'll develop a personalized treatment plan and schedule your treatment.

If you are not a candidate for proton therapy, we will work with you and your doctor to determine other treatment options.

3 BEFORE YOUR TREATMENT

During your consultation, your doctor may decide additional tests are necessary to plan your treatment, such as blood work, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), or positron emission tomography (PET) scans.

Your care team nurse will help you coordinate and schedule any tests.

Before your treatment begins, you will be given a photo name tag that should be worn each time you visit ProCure. When you arrive for treatment, your name tag will be scanned to notify your treatment team that you are at ProCure and ready for the appointment.

4 TREATMENT PLANNING

After your consultation and any additional tests, we will schedule you for a CT scan. This will take up to 1.5 hours. The purpose of this CT scan is to gather images of your tumor and normal tissue so your doctor can "see" the tumor and pinpoint its exact location, size, and shape. Depending on the location of your tumor, you may receive a contrast agent or dye during your CT scan.

Using your CT images, a team of proton therapy experts will develop an individual treatment plan, determining the number of treatments you need and creating a customized plan for your treatment. For most patients, it takes about one to two weeks for treatment planning to be completed.

5

SCHEDULING YOUR TREATMENT SESSIONS

In approximately two weeks, once planning for treatment is completed, your care team will follow up with you on how many treatments are prescribed and schedule your first appointment. Most patients have therapy five days a week for four to eight weeks, depending on the total number of treatments needed. If there are changes to the schedule, you will always be informed.

It is very important to follow the treatment schedule prescribed by your doctor. If you must cancel or reschedule a treatment, we will work to accommodate your medical needs.

6

DURING YOUR TREATMENT SESSIONS

Your sessions take 15-60 minutes, depending on your treatment plan. Your radiation therapists will have everything ready for you before the treatment begins. You will be automatically moved into position before each treatment using an FDA-approved robotic positioning system. You will be asked to lie still on a treatment bed while your therapists make adjustments.

After you are in position, it takes about a minute to deliver the proton beam. You will not feel or see it. You may hear some clicking from the equipment around you, but, generally, after a few treatment sessions, the sounds go unnoticed. No recovery time is needed, and you may immediately return to your everyday activities.

During the actual treatment, your therapists will leave the room and monitor your treatment from a control room just outside the treatment room. They can see and hear you through a video camera and microphone and are available if you need anything.

7

UPDATE ON YOUR PROGRESS

You'll be able to ask your doctor (radiation oncologist) questions at ProCure when you meet once per week during your treatment. Depending on your progress, your doctor may order additional tests such as blood tests, CTs, or MRIs.

Your first follow-up appointment will be scheduled within six months after your treatment is complete.

DIRECTIONS

FROM THE WEST:

Follow signs for I-78 East. Take Exit 29 for I-287 toward Route 202/Route 206/I-80/Morristown/Somerville. Follow I-287 South to Exit 10. Take Exit 10 to CR-527 S/Easton Avenue toward New Brunswick.

Take slight right onto CR-527 S/Easton Avenue. Turn right onto Cedar Grove Lane. Continue on Cedar Grove Lane for approximately one mile. ProCure Proton Therapy Center will be on your right (No. 103).

FROM THE NORTH:

Take I-95 South/NJ Turnpike to Exit 10 for Route 440 East toward I-287 North/Perth Amboy/Metuchen. Follow signs for I-287 North. Take I-287 to Exit 10 (Easton Avenue/CR-527 S toward New Brunswick). Bear left onto Easton Avenue/CR-527 S. Continue on Easton Avenue to first traffic light.

Make a right turn onto Cedar Grove Lane. Continue on Cedar Grove Lane for approximately one mile. ProCure Proton Therapy Center will be on your right (No. 103).

FROM THE SOUTH:

Take I-95 North/NJ Turnpike to Exit 10 for Route 440 East toward I-287 North/Perth Amboy/Metuchen. Follow signs for I-287 North. Take I-287 to Exit 10 (Easton Avenue/CR-527 S toward New Brunswick). Bear left onto Easton Avenue/CR-527 S. Continue on Easton Avenue to first traffic light. Make a right turn onto Cedar Grove Lane.

Continue on Cedar Grove Lane for approximately one mile. ProCure Proton Therapy Center will be on your right (No. 103).

FROM THE EAST:

Take the Garden State Parkway to Exit 130. Merge onto US Route 1 South toward Trenton. Take the ramp for I-287 North/Morristown/Mahwah. Merge onto I-287 North. Take I-287 to Exit 10 (CR-527 S/Easton Avenue toward New Brunswick).

Continue onto Easton Avenue to the first traffic light. Make a right turn on Cedar Grove Lane. Continue on Cedar Grove Lane for approximately one mile. ProCure Proton Therapy Center will be on your right (No. 103).



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732-357-2600 | ProCure.com



A Radiation Cancer Treatment Facility