

About Proton Therapy

When considering cancer treatment, side effects and outcomes are a major concern. **Proton therapy** is a non-invasive treatment and trusted method for accurately targeting tumors and **minimizing damage** to healthy tissue, which has a positive impact on **reduced side effects** and **improved quality of life**.

Traditional radiation therapy uses x-rays that continually deposit energy as they enter and exit the body, potentially causing damage to healthy tissue surrounding the tumor being treated. Proton therapy delivers treatment at a specific depth in the body and then stops. This unique property of protons eliminates the exit dose of unnecessary radiation. Protons deposit the prescribed dose of radiation to the tumor while limiting damage to healthy tissue.

As a result, the important organs and tissues surrounding the cancer are better protected from unnecessary radiation. Proton treatment minimizes treatment-induced side effect.

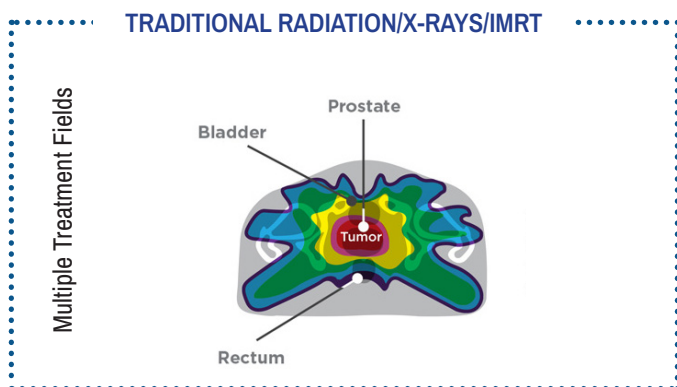
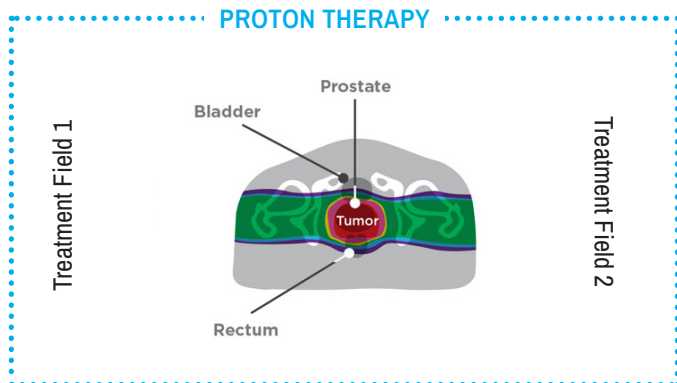


The goal of treatment is to deliver the proper dose of radiation to the tumor while limiting the dose received by surrounding healthy tissue.

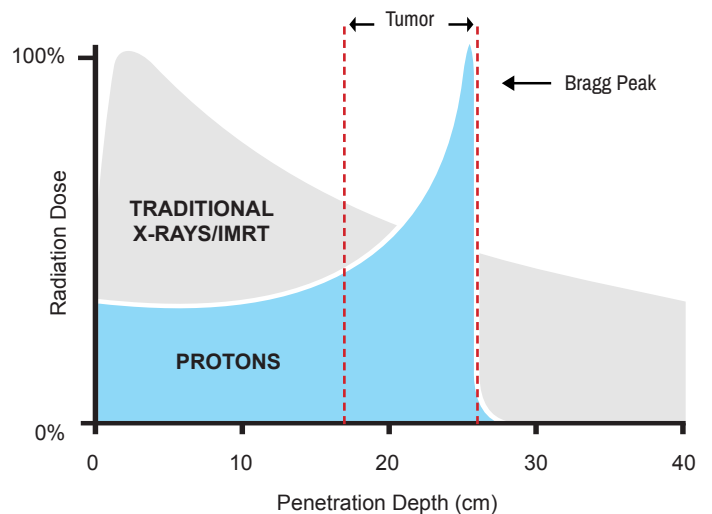
In the chart below, the sloping grey area shows how traditional radiation therapy delivers a dose. With this method, x-rays release radiation from the moment they hit the skin all the way through to the other side of the tumor. On the other hand, protons deliver their dose in a very different way. As the orange area shows, protons enter the body at a low dose, then deliver a large burst of energy at a precise depth. The areas shaded in grey show the additional dose delivered to healthy tissue by traditional radiation therapy compared to protons. Proton therapy delivers a dose in a more accurate, more efficient way, and avoids unnecessary radiation to surrounding healthy tissue.

Proton therapy can be used in conjunction with other treatment options, including surgery, chemotherapy, other radiation, and biological treatments.

Prostate Cancer Treatment Comparison



Delivery Dose Comparison



Proton therapy treatment is covered by Medicare and most insurance payors. We also provide personalized assistance by working directly with your insurance company to help you determine your coverage.