EMORY PROTON THERAPY CENTER WINSHIP CANCER INSTITUTE

Powerful & Precise Radiation

Cancer Treatment That Prioritizes Your Quality of Life





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Welcome

Emory Proton Therapy Center is the only proton therapy center in the state of Georgia. We offer an effective and precise form of radiation treatment that reduces the chance of side effects and may improve your quality of life during and after treatment.

Proton therapy is proven to be an effective and safe form of treatment for patients with any of the following tumors and cancers:

- Bone tumors
- Brain or spine tumors
- Breast cancer
- Childhood cancers
- Gastrointestinal cancer
- Head and neck cancer
- Lung cancer
- Lymphoma
- Pelvic cancer
- Prostate cancer
- Sarcoma

As part of Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University, we combine the skills of our world-renowned physicians with leading-edge technologies. Our specialized team of doctors and other care providers work with you to discuss treatment options and create a personalized care plan.

What Is Proton Therapy?

Proton therapy is one of the most promising developments in cancer treatment and is more advanced than traditional radiation therapy. Using protons particles from the center of an atom — we are able to deliver a high dose of radiation with pinpoint accuracy while sparing the surrounding healthy tissue and organs from damage.

Treatment is delivered in a sequence, called fractions, and is usually given daily in 20- to 30-minute sessions, Monday through Friday. The length of treatment may vary from two to eight weeks and will depend on your diagnosis and other factors.

Benefits of Proton Therapy

A major benefit of proton therapy is the dose amount. Proton therapy allows your physicians to precisely aim the highest dose of radiation at a tumor and avoid healthy tissues.

Proton therapy:

- Precisely targets tumors and cancer cells
- Reduces the likelihood and severity of short- and long-term side effects on surrounding healthy tissues and organs
- Delivers an optimal dose of radiation to the tumor
- Can be used to treat recurrent tumors, even for a patient who has already received radiation
- Improves quality of life during and after treatment

Proton therapy is especially effective for a patient whose cancer has limited treatment options and where traditional radiation therapy is too dangerous, such as the eyes, brain and spinal cord.

Many factors are considered in identifying your best treatment choices, and proton therapy is not always most appropriate. As part of the consultation process, our team will assess your case, compare benefits and risks of different treatment options and discuss our recommendation of what we believe will work best for you.



Proton Therapy vs Radiation Therapy



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cancer tissues.



Proton Therapy for Children

Now the standard of care for young patients, proton therapy may help reduce both the short- and long-term side effects of radiation on the growth and development of healthy organs. Our physicians work closely with your child's pediatric oncologist and other physicians and keep them up-to-date on your child's progress throughout their treatment.

Consultation

Your first step in care is a consultation with one of our expert radiation oncology physicians. We will review your medical history, perform an exam and decide if any additional tests are needed. Afterward we will discuss all your options with you, provide our recommendation and then provide a detailed roadmap of your therapy journey with us.

Simulation Appointment

Before you begin proton therapy, you will undergo a simulation, which is a treatment planning session. During this visit a CT scan is taken and used to create a custom treatment plan for you.

Treatment Planning

We work together as a team to provide the best treatment plan for your specific cancer based on our advanced technologies and collective expertise. The average time from simulation to starting treatment is two to three weeks.

What to Expect During Treatment

Starting Treatment

It's normal to be nervous, but our team will be there with you each step of the way to help ease your fears. They will assist you in the treatment room and explain what to expect. You will also have the option to listen to your own music. The actual treatment is painless, and the main sound you're likely to hear is just the noise of the machine moving.

Treatment Course

During treatment, you will meet at least once each week with your clinical team. The team will monitor your progress and help with any side effects you may have.

Life After Treatment

After you have completed the treatments, your physician will talk with you about the results and discuss follow-up appointments and a long-term plan. We can provide additional resources and referrals to other care providers if you need them.

Next Steps

To get started, call us at 1-833-377-6866, or complete the online form at emoryproton.com.

Our expert team will guide you through the consultation process, schedule an appointment and help you understand the insurance process. If you are visiting from out of town, our team can assist you with accommodations and transportation.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW DO I KNOW PROTON THERAPY IS A GOOD OPTION FOR ME?

Your radiation oncologist will consider many factors when recommending the best treatment option for you. While proton therapy may not always be appropriate, our expert team will review your case and discuss our recommendations during your first visit.

HOW SUCCESSFUL IS PROTON THERAPY?

Success with proton therapy depends on many factors, including the stage and the type of tumor you have. Research show that proton therapy is as effective as other forms of radiation treatment and may achieve better results in certain cases. We will discuss your expectations from treatment as part of your consultation.

WHAT IF I DO NOT LIVE WITHIN DRIVING DISTANCE?

Our team will work with you to discuss options for lodging if you live too far away to commute for your daily treatment.

CAN I DRIVE OR WORK?

Most patients are able to drive and have no restrictions on activity during their proton treatment. If you are unable to drive, we have staff that are able to assist you with transportation options. If you are unable to work, time off from the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) may be an option for you.

HOW LONG IS A TREATMENT COURSE?

Proton therapy is usually given daily, Monday through Friday. The length of treatment may vary from two to eight weeks and will depend on your diagnosis and other factors. The average treatment time is six weeks. Your recommended number of treatments will be discussed during your consultation.

HOW LONG IS TREATMENT EACH DAY?

Most patients spend about 30 minutes in the treatment room each day. Much of that time is spent getting set up for treatment and making sure everything is properly aligned before treatment begins. The actual treatment is typically delivered in a few minutes.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS?

Like other types of radiation treatments, proton therapy is invisible and painless. All treatments have potential side effects and risks that can depend on your tumor and its location. Your physician will monitor the progress of your treatment and address any side effects you experience.

WHAT ABOUT MY OTHER APPOINTMENTS?

Many patients receive other treatments and procedures during their course of proton therapy. Our team works with your other medical providers so that you receive all necessary treatments.

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DIRECTIONS & PARKING

Emory Proton Therapy Center Winship Cancer Institute 615 Peachtree St. NE Atlanta, GA 30308 H&R 1-833-3PROTON (1-833-377-6866)

From the airport, I-20 East, I-20 West or I-85 North, follow signs for I-85 North.

- 1. Take I-85 North to exit 249B (Pine Street NE) in Atlanta.
- 2. Take a left on Peachtree Street NE.
- 3. Take a right on Ponce De Leon Avenue NE.
- 4. The entrance to the Emory Proton Therapy Center will be half a block on your right.

From I-75 South, I-85 South or US 400 South, follow signs for I-85 South.

- 1. Take I-85 South to exit 249D (North Avenue NE) in Atlanta. Take a left off ramp onto North Avenue NE.
- 2. Take a left on Peachtree Street NE.
- 3. Take a right on Ponce De Leon Avenue NE.
- 4. The entrance to the Emory Proton Therapy Center will be half a block on your right.
- 5. Free valet parking is available for all patients and caregivers
- 6. at Emory Proton Therapy Center. Please drive to the entrance located on Ponce De Leon Avenue, where a valet will help you with your vehicle.





EMORY PROTON THERAPY CENTER WINSHIP CANCER INSTITUTE

615 Peachtree St. NE Atlanta, GA 30308 Entrance around the corner on Ponce de Leon Avenue NE

1-833-377-6866 emoryproton.com