



## PRESS RELEASE

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### PROVISION CARES PROTON THERAPY CITES NEW STUDY SHOWING PROTON THERAPY SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCES THE RISK OF SECOND CANCER

**Knoxville/Franklin, Tenn.** (August 10, 2020) – Radiation therapy is commonly used to treat different forms of cancer. However, traditional radiation treatment (x-ray/IMRT) unnecessarily exposes healthy cells and vital organs to harmful rays, increasing the patient’s risk of developing a second cancer later in life.

Provision CARES Proton Therapy offers a safer form of radiation treatment called [proton therapy](#). Proton therapy is a more advanced form of radiation, attacking cancerous tumors with a single beam of high-energy protons. Proton therapy precisely targets the cancer cells, while avoiding unnecessary radiation to healthy tissue and vital organs surrounding the tumor. This form of treatment reduces the risk of side effects during and after treatment, providing a better quality of life for cancer patients. A recent study published in May 2020 in the American Cancer Society's peer-reviewed journal, *Cancer*, confirmed the long-term benefits by showing that patients who undergo proton therapy, rather than traditional radiation, have a substantially lower risk of getting cancer a second time.

Using the information from the National Cancer Database (NCDB), researchers from Stanford University did a retrospective cohort study and examined over 450,000 cases. These included various types of cancers in people of different ages and backgrounds. They looked at those who chose x-ray therapies, namely intensity-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT) and 3-dimensional conformal radiation therapy (3DCRT) and compared them with patients who underwent proton therapy. These patients were observed for a total of 2 to 5 years after they received treatment.

The research team discovered that those who chose proton therapy were three times less likely to develop a second cancer than patients who underwent traditional radiation. Patients who received IMRT were 3.5 times more prone, while patients who received 3DCRT were 3.6 times more prone to a second cancer diagnosis. Furthermore, proton therapy decreased the overall risk of developing a second cancer by 69% compared to IMRT. These results clearly show that proton therapy is the safer option when treating various forms of cancer.



Recognizing these benefits, the [Provision CARES Proton Therapy](#) team is dedicated to making this superior treatment available to cancer patients. As a proton therapy provider, they strive to advocate for cancer patients to ensure they receive the best treatment available and experience a better quality of life, now and in the future. With their efforts to set new standards of excellence in the industry, patients can be confident they'll receive a safe, timely and effective cancer treatment.

### **About Provision CARES Proton Therapy**

Provision CARES Proton Therapy has locations in Knoxville and Nashville, Tenn. We are the first and only proton therapy centers in East and Middle Tennessee. Provision provides a unique combination of personalized, comprehensive cancer care for patients, offering proton therapy, one of the most advanced cancer treatments in the world. Proton therapy is an advanced form of radiation therapy that uses a single beam of high-energy protons to treat various forms of cancer, treating tumors by directing radiation into the tumor site where doses of radiation destroy cancerous cells. Proton therapy minimizes the risk of short and long-term side effects that can occur when delivering radiation energy to a cancer patient, which can improve a patient's quality of life during and after treatment.

For more information about Provision CARES Proton Therapy, visit [www.provisionhealthcare.com](http://www.provisionhealthcare.com) or follow us on our [blog](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

**Contact Nancy Howard at (865) 321-4553 for more information.**

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