



# MARYLAND PROTON TREATMENT CENTER

AFFILIATED WITH UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
MARLENE AND STEWART GREENEBAUM  
COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER



Delivering the best of both worlds —  
effective, high-dose treatment with minimal  
side effects for pediatric patients



# Special Treatment for a Special Patient



Discovering your child is severely sick and requires treatment for cancer is one of the most difficult experiences any parent can go through. Whether you've just begun your journey or have been dealing with your child's illness for quite some time, finding the best treatment for your child becomes so important for you both.

Often, finding the right treatment for your child is not easy for you and the whole family. While treatment with a low risk of side effects is preferred, for many patients, limiting radiation exposure to normal tissue is especially important when treating a child or adolescent cancer patient. Not only is there concern over your child's immediate health, but also about harmful side effects that can affect their long-term growth. Traditional radiation used to treat pediatric cancer can sometimes lead to many risks for growing kids, including developmental delays, hormone deficiencies, bone and muscle tissue effects and hearing loss.

At the Maryland Proton Treatment Center (MPTC), we're excited to offer a different kind of treatment for your child. Using the latest advances in technology, we are able to give

you and your child an entirely new tool in the toolbox in the fight against cancer — proton therapy. This treatment combines powerful, high-dose radiation with precision that is unmatched in traditional cancer therapies. That means your child experiences fewer side effects and lower risk of long-term consequences from our treatment.

At MPTC, we understand that your child is precious and unique, which is why we are honored to offer a treatment to match. Thank you for trusting in us to give your child their best chance at health.

**William F. Regine, MD, FACR, FACRO**

*Executive Director, Maryland Proton Treatment Center  
Isadore & Fannie Schneider Foxman Chair and Professor  
of Radiation Oncology, University of Maryland School  
of Medicine*

# What Is Proton Therapy and How Does It Differ from Standard Radiation Therapy?

Proton therapy is a specific type of radiation therapy used to treat cancer. Radiation therapy involves using intense energy directed at cancer cells to destroy the DNA that causes these cells to grow. The majority of cancer patients receive some form of radiation therapy and this treatment has been used to save millions of lives.

## **Proton therapy:**

- Uses individual proton particles sent precisely into cancer cells.
- Is a non-invasive treatment, causing minimal discomfort and side effects.
- Can be applied to localized tumors that have not spread to other parts of the body.

Unlike X-ray (photon) technology, protons deliver a maximum radiation dose that stops at the tumor site. This enables our physicians to target the cancer cells while sparing normal, healthy tissue in the rest of the body. The proton beam can be precisely controlled to target tumors located near growing tissues, such as those in the brain, eyes or mouth. It can also deliver lower amounts of radiation to the heart, lungs and other organs affected by sarcomas and lymphomas. This is especially important in growing children, where unintentional damage can have long-term consequences.



# Why Choose Proton Therapy at MPTC for Your Child?

## **Access to the latest technology.**

The techniques used at the Maryland Proton Treatment Center represent the next generation in proton therapy. All five of our treatment rooms are equipped with the most advanced form of “pencil-beam” radiation available, today known as IMPT. This technology allows physicians to “paint” the radiation onto the target area, layer-by-layer.

## **Effectively treat hard-to-reach**

**areas.** Our doctors are able to treat cancers in areas that are difficult to access with targeted treatment never before possible. The precision is especially important for children whose bodies and organs are smaller, making traditional radiation therapy more difficult.

**Let your kid be a kid.** Proton therapy is a non-invasive outpatient treatment that causes minimal discomfort. The accuracy of proton therapy helps protect healthy tissues surrounding the tumor, meaning your child experiences minimal side effects. During treatment your child is able to continue normal activities, allowing them to continue learning and enjoying their life. This is so important for our younger patients who are already going through so much.

**Increase your child’s options.** Proton therapy can be used as a stand-alone treatment option, or combined with other treatment options, including surgery and chemotherapy. Proton treatment gives you and your child one more powerful tool in the fight against cancer.

**Experience seamless, comprehensive cancer care.** All patients at MPTC have full access to a wide range of integrated, multidisciplinary cancer services and clinical trials through the University of Maryland Marlene

and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Children’s Hospital.

## **Get the right treatment, every time.**

Each treatment for your child can be pre-checked with volumetric CT-scan imaging in a treatment room — another “first” and unique feature of our facility. A comprehensive panel of advanced imaging devices, including CT and MRI are available to assist in advanced treatment planning and response assessment.



# The MPTC Difference

- At MPTC, we're excited to bring expertise and experience to offer this life-saving treatment option to the region.
- We believe that cost should not be a barrier to getting the best care for your child. That's why we have implemented a cost neutral rate for treatment that eliminates insurance variations from preventing access to treatment.
- MPTC is located in the heart of the University of Maryland BioPark and is operated and managed by professionals from the University of Maryland Department of Radiation Oncology.
- Our connection with the University of Maryland Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum Comprehensive Cancer Center (UMGCCC), an NCI-designated cancer center, means you will experience seamless, as well as comprehensive, care between UMGCCC and MPTC.

## Unique Care for Our Youngest Patients

**Magic Castle.** Our Magic Castle program is a joyful symbol of hope for young patients at MPTC. When they first begin treatment, children are invited to think of three wishes and write them down to be placed inside a castle. On the final day of their treatment, children's wishes are granted during a special ceremony attended by family and staff. This program gives patients something extra exciting to look forward to during treatment, which can help them feel even better in their accomplishment.

**Care centered on kids.** At MPTC, we have created our care with your child in mind. With waiting areas offering games and activities, recovery bays designed for children, and nurses with special pediatric training, we are focused on making the experience at MPTC as fun and comfortable as

possible for your child. Dealing with cancer is never easy, and we believe it's important to do everything in our power to make your child's experience the best it can be.

## Our Team

The Center is led by renowned radiation oncologists from the University of Maryland School of Medicine who are inspired by patients and driven by a passion for healing. Helping lead our care is Executive Director William F. Regine, MD, FACR, FACRO, a leader in the field of radiation therapy and a recognized expert in the areas of gastrointestinal malignancies, CNS malignancies and innovative radiation technology.

Using a team approach to care, every child receives an individualized treatment plan. Our team includes radiation oncologists, radiation dosimetrists, radiation physicists, nurse practitioners, therapists, social workers and concierge staff.

Together, we're dedicated to providing exceptional care that puts your child's needs first and provides the best possible outcome for them.

## Concierge Services

Proton therapy at the Maryland Proton Treatment Center is an outpatient procedure, meaning you and your child

are free to explore all that Baltimore has to offer throughout treatment. Baltimore is Maryland's largest city and economic center. With a beautiful, walkable Inner Harbor downtown area and kid-oriented museums, Baltimore offers many opportunities for family exploration and fun.

From start to finish during your time at MPTC, our concierge team will help you and your family — free of charge — to make the most of your time here. We'll walk you through every step of your journey to ensure you enjoy a seamless experience and are as comfortable as possible while receiving treatment. Services we offer, but are not limited to, include:

- Pre-coordination of appointments
- Lodging recommendations
- Translator services\*
- Escort and navigation assistance
- Free valet parking
- Cellphone service during your stay\*
- Grocery-delivery services\*
- Lists of Baltimore-area amenities,\* attractions\* and places of worship
- Support group guidance

You can learn more about our concierge services by calling Emily Robinson, our Supervisor of Concierge Services, at **410-369-5205**.

\* Pricing available upon request.



# Preparing for Your Consultation

- Before your child's consultation, we'll provide you with a list of background materials that are needed to coordinate care. These may include medical records, scans, treatment plans or other materials depending on your individual needs. You can bring these materials with you to your consultation, or have them transferred to MPTC before your arrival.
- Consider creating a list of questions to go over with your doctor. Thinking about and writing down your questions before you arrive can help ensure all of your concerns are addressed. It's important you leave your consultation feeling as informed as possible to help you decide if proton therapy is right for your child.
- We recommend bringing a loved one for support. With emotions often running high and a lot of information to discuss, having some additional support can help you remember what was discussed at the consultation and provide emotional strength throughout your visit.



## What to Expect During Treatment

After your consultation, you and your doctor will decide on the best treatment course for your child. If proton therapy is the right option, our team will help coordinate treatment and care. Proton therapy treatment can vary from one session up to eight weeks, depending on your child's needs. Each session typically lasts 30 minutes on average. Your doctor will work with you to develop a plan that is specific to your child's needs.



Have questions about your child's upcoming consultation? Call **410-369-5200** to get answers.



## Directions to the Maryland Proton Treatment Center

The Maryland Proton Treatment Center (MPTC) is located in the University of Maryland BioPark in downtown Baltimore, just minutes from Camden Yards and the Inner Harbor. MPTC is easily accessible from Interstates I-95, 97, 83 and the Baltimore Beltway I-695.

### From I-95

**From the North:** Follow I-95 South to exit 53 (Route 395 North/Downtown). When the road forks, keep right to enter onto Martin Luther King Blvd. Make a left on West Baltimore Street. MPTC is located on the right-hand side of the street, midway down the block.

**From the South:** Follow I-95 North to exit 53 (Route 395 North/Downtown). When the road forks, keep right to enter onto Martin Luther King Blvd. Make a left on West Baltimore Street. MPTC is located on the right-hand side of the street, midway down the block.

### From I-83

Follow I-83 South (Jones Falls Expressway) until the expressway ends, turn right on East Fayette Street (will turn into West Fayette). Make a left on Martin Luther King Blvd. Make a right on West Baltimore Street. MPTC is located on the right-hand side of the street, midway down the block.

### From I-70

Take I-70 East to I-695 South (Glen Burnie). Follow I-695 to I-95 North. Merge onto exit 53 (Route 395 North/Downtown). When the road forks, keep right to enter onto Martin Luther King Blvd. Make a left on West Baltimore Street. MPTC is located on the right-hand side of the street, midway down the block.

### From I-97

Follow I-97 N to I-695 W (Baltimore/Towson). Once on I-695 W, take Exit 7B for MD-295 N towards Baltimore. MD-295 will become Russell Street. After passing Horseshoe Casino and Raven's Stadium on your right, stay right on Russell Street and follow signs for Martin Luther King Boulevard. Stay on Martin Luther King Boulevard for about 1 mile. When you reach W Baltimore Street, make a left. MPTC is located on the right-hand side of the street, midway down the block.

### From Washington, D.C. or BWI Airport

Follow I-295 North to Baltimore. Upon entering the city, I-295 will become Russell Street. After passing Camden Yards baseball stadium, Russell Street will become Paca Street. Make a left on West Fayette Street. Then turn left onto Martin Luther King Blvd. Make your first right on West Baltimore Street. MPTC is located on the right-hand side of the street, midway down the block.

### Parking

Free Patient Valet Parking is available at the Maryland Proton Treatment Center. Turn right at the main entrance, located midway down the 800 block of West Baltimore Street.

### Garage One

A covered parking garage is located  $\frac{1}{2}$  block away from the center on the corners of West Baltimore and North Poppleton streets. Please make sure to tell the attendant you have an appointment at the Maryland Proton Treatment Center.

Upon leaving the garage, walk approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  block east back toward Martin Luther King Boulevard. The Maryland Proton Treatment Center is located on the same side of the street as the parking garage. After your appointment is complete, your parking ticket will be validated in the main lobby upon check out.

While there is metered street parking available on West Baltimore Street near the center, we encourage use of the valet parking services or Garage One as both options are free of charge to MPTC patients.

Please do not hesitate to contact our office at **410-369-5200** with any questions.

# RING IN HOPE



"Every day is a gift, just untie the ribbon."

*~Mrs. Patricia Tierney, cancer survivor*



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