

PRESS STATEMENT

For Immediate Release

Tuesday 18 August 2009

Royal College of Radiologists welcomes Department of Health announcement on Proton Beam Therapy

Dr Jane Barrett, Dean of the RCR's Faculty of Oncology, said, "The Royal College of Radiologists welcomes this very important announcement on the development of Proton Beam Therapy in England. It underlines the importance of high quality radiotherapy as an essential part of the modern treatment of cancer.

"The use of Proton Beam Therapy treatments will mean major changes in the pathways of care for some rarer cancers and particularly in the future, for the treatment of children with cancer. It will mean that England has access to the full range of modern treatments for cancer patients, and will ensure that we have the best cure rates and outcomes for radiotherapy treatments with the minimum of side effects. For the vast majority of patients however, conventional radiotherapy will remain by far the most efficient and best option for cancer treatment."

Notes to Editors

1. For further details, please contact Dan Garbutt, Communications Officer at the Royal College of Radiologists, on 020 7299 1138 or dan_garbutt@rcr.ac.uk
2. The Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) has approximately 7800 members and Fellows worldwide, representing the disciplines of clinical oncology and clinical radiology. All members and Fellows of the College are registered medical or dental practitioners.