

Proton Beam News:

Breast Cancer Edition

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Call 909-558-4419 for your Free DVD of this machine.

See up to 25 short, easy to understand videos that explain proton therapy, the Loma Linda facility, and the treatment.

Other Proton Beam Links...

www.ProtonJoe.com

www.Protons.com

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Contact ProtonJoe for a copy of this newsletter:

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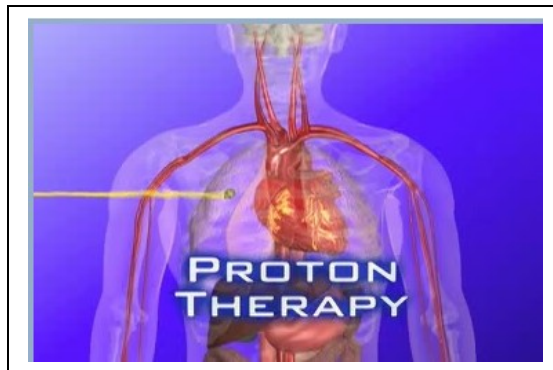
How Many Women Will Get Breast Cancer in 2008?

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in the United States, other than skin cancer. It is the second leading cause of cancer death in women, after lung cancer.

According to the American Cancer Society, about 182,460 women in the United States will be found to have invasive breast cancer in 2008. About 40,480 women will die from the disease in 2008. Right now there are about two and a half million breast cancer survivors in the United States.

The chance of a woman having invasive breast cancer some time during her life is about 1 in 8. The chance of dying from breast cancer is about 1 in 35. Breast cancer death rates are going down. This is probably the result of finding the cancer earlier and improved treatment.

What is Proton Beam Therapy?



Loma Linda University Medical Center started Proton Beam Therapy in 1990. **Proton Therapy is NOT experimental. Proton Therapy IS COVERED in the U.S. by MEDICARE and most insurance providers.**

It is the most precise form of radiation treatment available; radiates primarily the tumor site, leaving surrounding healthy tissue and organs intact and unharmed. It is non-invasive, painless, maintains quality-of-life lifestyle during treatment process on an out-patient basis. Patients carry on normal activities. Amazingly it has minimum to no side effects resulting from treatment.

Therapy often used in conjunction with other cancer treatments. Treatment time can take from one day to 9+ weeks depending on affected site. Proton Beam Therapy has been proven to be highly effective in treating children with tumors sparing

side effects and trauma. In addition, it is highly effective treatment for tumors in the **head, brain, neck, lung, breast and prostate**. Proton Beam Radiation Therapy can be used in areas of the body that cannot be operated on such as: **lungs, liver, kidneys, the esophagus, the rectum, sarcomas**, and others. (see www.ProtonJoe.com for additional information)

NO MEDICAL ADVICE: Material appearing here represents opinions offered by non-medically-trained laypersons. Comments shown here should NEVER be interpreted as specific medical advice and must be used only as background information when consulting with a qualified medical professional.

What else can you do?

- Don't Watch and Wait! Get Educated.
- Early Detection – Self exams and digital computerized mammograms.
- Make sure your Doctor knows this information.
- Take this information to your Doctor.
- Become more informed so you can make better decisions.
- Look for additional information about bringing a Proton Beam Treatment Center to your area.
- Go to www.ProtonJoe.com

Call 909-558-4419 for your FREE DVD

Breast Cancer Links:

www.cancer.org

www.NationalBreastCancer.org

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Carol's Story – A Sad But True Story That Happens Every Day

Traditional mammography located breast cancer in one of Carol's breasts. She chose to follow her doctor's recommendation of removing both breasts followed by 6 to 8 weeks of chemotherapy. After the surgery and 7 weeks of radiation, the doctor told Carol the radiation had hardened her lungs and they no longer expanded as they should. This put strain on her heart. Carol died of heart failure, not cancer. This true story is very common.

Protons may be able to kill infant stage breast cancer with as little as 10 treatments of 2 minutes a day with no chemotherapy, no breast removal, and minimal to no side effects.

Cure Breast Cancer in 20 Minutes! Janine's Story

'You have breast cancer.' These are words no one wants to hear. Now what? Surgery... Chemotherapy... Radiation – the emotional roller coaster is running full throttle. You have to let go of the emotions and become very objective. Talk with your doctor, your family, your friends, and even with people who have or have had breast cancer. Schedule the surgery to remove the tumor and begin the learning process. Find the resources available to help you with determining treatment options available to you. Some of these resources are easily found. You need to become your own Health Care Advocate.

My first decision – lumpectomy or mastectomy. Listen to your doctor. If you like, get a second opinion. My tumor was 1.2 centimeters, so I opted for a lumpectomy. My surgeon agreed. I had taken my first step to defeat this disease. Now it was time for the bigger decision – treatment. Do not be afraid to involve your family and extended family (friends). This is your support network.

The treatment suggested to me was a choice between traditional radiation therapy after chemotherapy or a newer radiation procedure called mammo site. Mammo site uses a balloon placed in the tumor site. Radiation is administered thru a tail on the balloon that is under your arm using a probe-like device. Chemotherapy then follows. Both methods had strong possibilities of side effects. But then through 'word of mouth' a third option became available. I learned about the proton beam therapy program at Loma Linda University Medical Center (LLUMC) in California.

I set out on a mission to find out what proton beam therapy could do for me. I contacted the Referral Desk (1-800-PROTONS) and had my medical records sent to LLUMC for evaluation. I qualified for a study so I was off to LLUMC to do a consultation and I was accepted into the breast cancer program.

This treatment program offered me a form of radiation at the tumor site that does not harm the underlying organs and bones.

Treatment is done on an out patient basis for 10 days. Actual proton treatment lasts approximately 2 minutes each day. Healthy tissue is not damaged and I had no major side effects.

Now let me tell you about my treatment. Most mornings I had an 8:00 or 8:15 appointment. I had breakfast and a shower, dressed and walked the ½ mile to the hospital, did my treatment and walked back to my hotel. Side effects were non-existent. I kept waiting for a 'bad-day'. I never had one. I felt great. After completing my proton treatment I consulted with the LLUMC Chemotherapy Group and based on my tumor size they saw no advantage to doing chemotherapy, but I was placed on an estrogen inhibiting drug which I will take for 5 years.

The environment at LLUMC is amazing. Patients feel at home and very welcome. In the waiting areas people waiting for treatment, spouses, family, and friends are laughing and visiting with each other. Activities are being planned for the rest of the day.

Newcomers are welcomed and invited to the Tuesday Night Pot Luck or the Wednesday night speaker program. The guys are talking golf games. Past patients return just to visit. Lasting friendships are made and some groups of patients even hold reunions. The upbeat and positive mood that prevails makes LLUMC an amazing place. Those of us who have been a participant in the proton beam therapy program would like for it to become an option for more cancer patients. LLUMC is treating 44 kinds of cancer. In some instances treatment is still in the research and study stage. Any individual can contact the LLUMC referral desk (1-800-PROTONS) and ask to be evaluated for proton beam therapy. If you or someone you know has a diagnosis of cancer, consider utilizing proton beam therapy as part of the treatment plan.

I have just returned from my first follow up visit at LLUMC. My test results were wonderful and right on target with the doctor's expectations.