

3822

Proton Therapy Center in National Cancer Center, Korea.

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National Cancer Center (NCC) in Korea, that specializes in cancer research, treatment, and education, has been established near Seoul on March 22, 2000. The groundbreaking ceremony of the Proton Therapy Center (PTC) was held on March 22, 2003. The PTC at NCC has 7,000 cm² facility devoted to proton cancer therapy and features including cyclotron-type accelerator, beam delivery systems (IBA), treatment planning (Eclipse, Varian Medical Systems), data management (Varis, Varian Medical Systems) and imaging systems (PACS, Marotech). There are two gantry treatment rooms, 1 fixed beam treatment room and 1 experimental site at PTC. All of the clinical data and image management systems are fully integrated with proton therapy system. The proton therapy facility will be opened for patient treatments in the autumn of 2006. The beam calibration of treatment room has been successfully carried out and treatment preparation for gantry treatment room 2 will be completed in September 2006. Proton clinical protocols have been developed and the various cancer-specific clinical staffs are developing treatment planning techniques, immobilization systems and patient treatment procedure. All clinical personals who will be working on the proton therapy facility are under hard training and we expect to carry out simulated treatments with the proton facility in October 2006. We will make a presentation on the project update and describe the current status of proton therapy facility at NCC, Korea.

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