

Letter to the editor

This letter is in response to the April 12, 2023, column by Doctor Keith Roach titled “Proton Therapy Serves as Option for Prostate Cancer”.

In this column the doctor wrote, “ To date, there is no evidence that proton beam leads to better outcomes than IMRT (Intensely Modulated Radiation Therapy), so I do not recommend it.” I take strong exception to this statement.

I have just completed six weeks of proton therapy treatments at the University of Florida Health Proton Therapy Institute located in Jacksonville FL. The institute started treating cancer patients in August of 2006. Since then, they have treated over 10,000 patients. In addition, the institute is a leader in research on proton therapy and their research is a direct contradiction to the statement Dr. Roach published in his column.

I would highly recommend that Doctor Roach contact Doctor William Mendenhall at the institute. I know he can provide all the research necessary for Dr. Roach to retract his statement.

The American Cancer Society's estimates for prostate cancer in the United States for 2023 are **About 288,300 new cases of prostate cancer**. Please get the latest research and let these men know that proton therapy is a highly desirable option to Intensely Modulated Radiation Therapy.