

## Patient Treatments Begin with New Proton Therapy System in Kyoto

Earlier this month, the Nagamori Memorial Center of Innovative Cancer Therapy and Research began treating patients with proton therapy in Kyoto at the Prefectural University of Medicine. Proton therapy is growing more widespread in use as a form of treatment for patients with cancer. Nagamori Memorial Center is the first site to offer proton therapy in the Kyoto Prefecture. Using the proton therapy system, oncologists deliver extremely focused proton beams that destroy tumors while sparing nearby healthy tissue.

The Nagamori team's vision to provide highly advanced, cutting-edge radiation oncology treatment resulted in the development of a facility that features new proton therapy technology supplied by Hitachi with two patient treatment rooms. Each room features the new Compact-360 Gantry, and a new generation of Hitachi particle therapy technology\* for image-guided and -gated scanning proton beam delivery.

The facility staff will systematically intake patients according to a clinical site ramp-up plan that gradually adds various types of cancers being treated to the case mix. Through conscientious planning, the Nagamori team and Hitachi worked together during the pre-opening phase to assemble the necessary elements required to optimize the clinical, operational and business performance of the proton therapy program. Nagamori Memorial Center requested assistance from Hitachi with those elements in order to concentrate on their mission to deliver precision medicine.

Collaborators in the partnership developed programs for outreach, education, training, and site marketing that are now being deployed. Staff training programs, facilitated by Hitachi, were critical to opening on schedule and treating each cancer case with high confidence. Now, Hitachi supports the Nagamori team's marketing and communications campaigns to raise public awareness, which include open-door informational seminars and advertising. Other outreach programs feature educational seminars for referring physicians in the local medical community and meetings to educate insurance companies. The collaboration partners believe these outreach and awareness activities will facilitate the intake of a sufficient and steady volume of patients to support the financial health of the proton therapy program.

As highly advanced medical technology, the proton therapy systems require regular service and support. A new maintenance framework will be established both at Nagamori and Hitachi under which the daily operational support, planned system check-up, and remote monitoring for the proton therapy system will be executed. In addition, Hitachi will support analysis of the various data related to proton therapy operations for continuous quality improvement in order to finely adjust the efficiency and effectiveness of treatment.

Hitachi's inspiration comes from its customers and what they require to be successful. Beyond the supply of highly advanced technology, Hitachi offers a range of operational support and services to assure the business success of the proton therapy program, demonstrating our commitment to make this cancer treatment available to more patients around the world.

*\* Hitachi PROBEAT-CR technology deployed in the Nagamori Memorial Center includes Real-time image Gated Proton Therapy (RGPT), Intensity Modulated Proton Therapy (IMPT), and Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT) for image guidance. The Compact-360 Gantry, currently not FDA 510(k) cleared, has already been installed at Johns Hopkins Medicine and is expected to be in clinical use in 2019.*



Proton Therapy System



Nagamori Memorial Center of Innovative Cancer Therapy and Research