TRANSFORMING CANCER CARE.

Proton Beam Therapy | Radiotherapy
Chemotherapy | Immunotherapy
Imaging and Diagnostics | Exceptional Patient Care
Delivering exceptional care and support

The Rutherford Cancer Centres are at the forefront of innovative cancer care. We provide ready access to state-of-the-art cancer treatments delivered by experienced consultants, specialists and staff, in exceptional care settings.

With a commitment to excellence throughout all we do, our network of centres provide an all-encompassing cancer service, delivering the highest quality imaging, diagnostics, planning, and treatments including chemotherapy, immunotherapy, radiotherapy and proton beam therapy.

Each of our centres has been carefully designed to meet the needs of our patients, and we pride ourselves on the standard of service and care we provide to everyone who enters one of our centres.

Each and every patient has a personalised care pathway, and our team of highly skilled staff provide support throughout treatment and offer easy access to a range of supportive care services, as required.

We work in collaboration with a range of partners, including insurers, technology companies, and health organisations, to provide patients with the best life outcomes possible coupled with personalised care and support.

Caring for patients using innovative treatments and techniques is at the heart of everything we do.

To find out more about our network of centres and how we work to improve the outcomes of cancer patients, please get in touch:
+44 (0)800 210 0402

You can find more information at: therutherford.com
Developing a network for everyone

Wherever there’s a need

We opened our first centre, the Rutherford Cancer Centre South Wales, in Newport in 2017, and in 2018 we were the first to treat a patient in the UK with high energy proton beam therapy.

The Rutherford Cancer Centre North East, in Northumberland, and the Rutherford Cancer Centre Thames Valley, in Reading, opened for conventional radiotherapy in 2018. Their respective proton beam therapy suites will open in 2019.

A fourth centre, the Rutherford Cancer Centre North West opens in Liverpool in 2019, adding to our expanding network of centres.

There are plans to further develop the network with an additional four UK centres over the next four years.

Our centres meet the needs of insured and self-pay private patients, as well as publicly-funded patients where we are commissioned to provide a service.

In 2018, the Rutherford Cancer Centre South Wales was approved by the Welsh Health Specialised Services Committee (WHSSC) to provide high energy proton beam therapy to adult patients referred from the NHS in Wales.

Our centres are all part of the ‘Rutherford’s networked, centralised system’, meaning that patients can be assessed for proton beam therapy at one centre before traveling to another for treatment if required.

As well as advanced cancer treatment technology, all Rutherford centres provide imaging via Computerised Tomography (CT) and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), to aid each patient’s treatment planning.

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There are more than 90,000 cancer patients in the UK every year who are treated with radical radiotherapy. We believe around 10% of patients treated with radical radiotherapy – the figure observed in other European countries - could be better treated with high energy proton beam therapy.

Proton beam therapy uses beams of protons to shrink tumours. Protons are small particles of an atom and a “particle accelerator” (cyclotron) is used to speed up the protons to produce the beam. The latest form of proton beam therapy is called intensity-modulated proton therapy (IMPT) with pencil beam scanning, an advanced technique that allows each dose to be precisely targeted.

Patients at our centres have access to the latest proton beam therapy equipment, including IBA ProteusONE machines. Using a robotic patient-positioning couch and the most up-to-date imaging capabilities alongside the ProteusONE means that damage to peripheral tissue and organs is minimised, reducing side-effects for our patients.

We maintain a strict policy of double-planning to evaluate whether a patient is best served with proton beam therapy or conventional radiotherapy. In addition, proton beam therapy may be used as a main treatment, or combined with other treatments such as surgery, radiotherapy, and chemotherapy.

Proton beam therapy is not an experimental treatment – its effectiveness is proven, for example, in the treatment of brain tumours in children and in some rarer adult cancers. In the USA, Japan and across Europe, over 200,000 patients have received proton beam therapy.

As part of our commitment to make cutting-edge treatments more widely available, we were the first centre in the UK to invest in and deliver proton beam therapy for cancer patients.

Delivering innovative cancer treatments

Proton beam therapy

To find out more about our network of centres and the options regarding proton beam therapy, please get in touch: +44 (0)800 210 0402

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Simon Hardacre was the first patient to be treated with high energy proton beam therapy in the UK, at the Rutherford Cancer Centre South Wales.

Unfortunately for Simon, it was his second cancer diagnosis, having fought the disease some years earlier. Having first-hand experience of the treatment process and its various pros and cons, Simon was determined to research the best possible option for him when he was diagnosed with prostate cancer at the end of 2017.

What followed was a time of intense research and medical consultations before learning about high energy proton beam therapy — a treatment option made even more appealing when he learned that the first centre in the UK was due to open its doors imminently, just 20 miles from his home.

Proton beam therapy can be used in various forms of cancer, however it is particularly effective for tackling hard-to-reach tumours given that it reduces damage to surrounding healthy tissue, which in turn may reduce side effects — an aspect which greatly appealed to Simon.

Meeting with the team at the Rutherford Cancer Centre South Wales, Simon made history in Spring 2018 when he became the first patient to undergo treatment in the UK, leading the way for various others who have since embarked on this treatment option in their own fight against cancer.

“Treat the first person in the UK with high energy proton beam therapy is a significant event, and it opens up a new frontier for treatment in the UK.”

- Dr Jason Lester, Consultant Clinical Oncologist

“From my own experience, it’s brilliant that we now have a world class facility here in the UK where patients like myself can be treated. This was a game changer for my own cancer treatment, and I’m sure that this will transform the outlook for many other patients up and down the country.”

- Simon Hardacre
About four out of ten people with cancer will have radiotherapy as part of their treatment plan. Radiotherapy that aims to destroy a cancerous tumour is called radical radiotherapy - it is one of the most important and proven treatments for cancer.

Radiotherapy uses high energy x-ray beams known as photons to destroy cancer cells in a treatment area. Other types of radiotherapy include proton beam therapy which uses particle beams, or electrons which is used for more superficial areas of the body such as the skin. The radiotherapy treatment comes from an electrical machine called a linear accelerator (linac), and is directed as a beam to the part of the body that needs to be treated.

Radiotherapy is planned and delivered differently depending on the type of cancer. In addition, patients with the same type of cancer don’t necessarily require identical treatment, this is individual to each patient. Radiotherapy can also be combined with other treatments, such as surgery and chemotherapy, to deliver the best possible outcomes for patients.

The Rutherford Cancer Centres use the latest technology from Elekta to provide precisely targeted radiotherapy, including Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy (IMRT), Volume-modulated Arc Therapy (V-MAT), 3D Conformal Radiotherapy, and Image Guided Radiotherapy (IGRT).

All of our centres offer Deep Inspiration Breath Hold (DIBH), which reduces organ motion in the thorax and upper abdomen using the Dynr SDX system, and aids in the treatment process. Treatments are delivered in such a way that patients can personalise their care with our state-of-the-art ambient facilities by selecting lighting, music and projections to suit their personal taste, helping to make their treatment appointments as comfortable as possible.

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There are over 200 types of cancer, and for some patients chemotherapy or immunotherapy will be the best option in treating their cancer.

Chemotherapy uses anti-cancer drugs to destroy cancer cells and it can involve one or more drugs given to a patient. Chemotherapy works by interfering with a cancerous cell's ability to divide and grow. The affected cells become damaged and eventually die. As the drugs are carried in the blood, they can reach cancer cells all over the body.

Not all cancers are treated with the same chemotherapy drugs or in the same way. There are many different chemotherapy drugs available and new drugs are being developed all the time.

Immunotherapy is used to boost the body’s natural defenses. It works by helping the immune system recognise and attack cancer cells. Some types of immunotherapy are also called targeted treatments or biological therapies.

Chemotherapy and immunotherapy can also be combined with other treatments, such as surgery, radiotherapy, and proton beam therapy.

We offer chemotherapy and immunotherapy at all our Rutherford Cancer Centres for oncology/haematology patients requiring systemic anti-cancer treatment (SACT) in an outpatient setting.

Our Infusion Therapy Suites (for chemotherapy and immunotherapy patients) are spacious, comfortable and modern. They include a waiting area for patients and visitors, and individual treatment rooms are available along with refreshment facilities.

This is a consultant-led service that offers flexibility and choice where possible to patients and their families. It is supported by our multidisciplinary team, to ensure patients are treated safely and holistically at all times.

To find out more about our network of centres and the options regarding chemotherapy or immunotherapy, please get in touch: +44 (0)800 210 0402

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Enabling patient flexibility in cancer treatments
The highest standards of care

Exceptional patient support

The care and support we offer our patients is second to none, and we provide that support from the point of diagnosis and referral through to post-treatment and recovery.

We deliver care in a relaxed and supportive environment that is responsive to individual needs and maintains dignity and confidentiality at all times.

We offer each patient a personalised total care package that goes beyond best practice pathways.

Our patients have easy access to a range of supportive services and additional therapies, to aid and assist with treatment and recovery, including:

- Relaxed, comfortable and modern facilities
- Transportation and accommodation
- Social support
- Spiritual and psychological support
- Symptom control
- Rehabilitation
- Complementary therapies
- Palliative care

We empower patients to be active participants in their care, and our clinical teams work with consultants to provide a bespoke cancer management package which meets the needs of each individual patient.

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A word to referrers and partners

Working with you to support patients

A collaborative approach
We aim to make the referral process as seamless as possible so that you can offer your patients the highest quality care.

Our staff consists of a multi-disciplinary team of professionals that includes medical physicists, dosimetrist, therapy radiographers, SACT nurses and supporting staff, all working together to support our patients.

Patient administrative services
Each of our centres maintains the highest standards of customer service.

Our dedicated administrative teams are on hand to liaise with consultants and patients and to answer any questions you may have about bookings, pricing and treatments.

Business development services
Our business development team provides support and guidance to help consultants develop their practice and promote their expertise. We can advise on working with private insurers as well as applying to be recognised on approved medical practitioners’ lists.

We also offer marketing support, including identifying and maintaining relationships with other practices and assistance with events, marketing and public relations.

Clinical governance
The services available at all our centres are planned and delivered in line with the requirements of healthcare regulators, professional bodies and national and international best practice.

Our centres are overseen by national and international Medical Advisory Committees and our active centres are registered under the relevant healthcare regulators where required.

This means that we have policies and processes in place to ensure the quality and safety of patient services.

We continually monitor our services through a planned programme of audits, and we always listen to patient feedback on what we do.

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The Rutherford Cancer Centres house some of the most sophisticated and accurate diagnostic imaging technology available and our experienced team are passionate about the service they provide to patients and clinicians.

Our diagnostic service is called Imaging@Rutherford. Patients and clinicians using Imaging@Rutherford can expect a first-class, rapid diagnostic service for a wide range of cancer and benign conditions.

This includes MSK (musculoskeletal) conditions concerning muscles, bones, or joints, which could relate to, for example, sport related injuries or back pain.

Our experienced team deliver high-quality, accurate imaging using the latest techniques and technology, and the Imaging@Rutherford team ensure all aspects of non-clinical work, such as insurance authorisation and appointments are completed quickly and efficiently. Referrals are accepted from clinicians or registered healthcare professionals.

The team are committed to making sure each patient’s visit is as comfortable as possible and that they enjoy a diagnostic experience that is second to none.

We are proud to be able to help fulfil a current and considerable national requirement for increased and faster diagnostic services. Imaging@Rutherford is available to self-pay patients, private patients under medical insurance (subject to approval) and NHS patients (subject to approval), helping to reduce patient waiting times and improve patient outcomes.

To find out more about our network of centres and the Imaging@Rutherford service, please get in touch: +44 (0)800 210 0402

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Proton Partners International is at the vanguard of advancing cancer care in the UK and internationally, building a network of oncology centres known as the Rutherford Cancer Centres. The centres have been named to reflect the renowned scientist Ernest Rutherford's contribution to the identification (1909-1919) and naming of the proton in 1920.

Proton Partners International has partnered with leading providers to equip each centre with the very latest cancer technology, including IBA (Ion Beam Applications), the world’s leading provider of proton beam therapy solutions, Elekta a leading provider of radiotherapy treatments, and Philips, a leader in health technology.

The company plans to open eight centres over the next four years and its first centre in South Wales was the first in the UK to offer and treat with high energy proton beam therapy.

The company was founded in 2015 by Mike Moran and UK and international cancer experts, including Professor Karol Sikora, former head of the World Health Organisation’s cancer programme.

Initial investors include the Wales Life Sciences Investment Fund and the Woodford Patient Capital Trust.

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