

## City of Cincinnati and Proton Therapy Center Highlighted on Global Platform



Congratulations to the Proton Therapy Center for recently hosting the weeklong 57th Annual International Particle Therapy Co-Operative Group (PTCOG) meeting in Cincinnati from May 21 – 26. PTCOG, founded in 1985, is a non-profit worldwide organization of scientists and professionals interested in proton, light ion and heavy charged particle radiotherapy. There were over 1,000 conference attendees from around the country and across the world. Attendees included academic physicians, MD/PhD radiation oncologists, PhD physicists, and representatives from NIH study sections and editors/reviewers for proton clinical and scientific papers. The meeting rotates between North America, Europe and Asia. The next annual meetings are in Taipei, Taiwan and Manchester, UK. Holding the meeting in Cincinnati and highlighting our center and city was a tremendous opportunity to be featured on a global platform.



During the conference there was a reception held at the Proton Therapy Center where 650 attendees had the chance to tour the facility. The tour and reception highlighted Cincinnati Children's global leadership for innovations in research. Additionally, for the second year in a row, a Cincinnati investigator won the international award for best PTCOG scientific abstract – this year it was Dr. Ralph Vatner, a radiation oncologist at the Proton Therapy Center.

### About Proton Therapy

Proton therapy is one of the most precise and advanced forms of radiation therapy available in the world today. In the hands of the expert cancer team at Cincinnati Children's, this specialized pencil beam technology destroys cancer cells while minimizing damage to surrounding healthy tissues and organs. As a result, patients experience fewer short-term side effects and long-term complications than with traditional radiation therapy. This is especially important for children, whose bodies are still growing and developing.

Our Proton Therapy Center – one of only two such centers in the world owned by a children's hospital – is located on the Cincinnati Children's Liberty Campus. We have created a bright and colorful environment where our team of cancer specialists is dedicated to making each family's experience as relaxed and comfortable as possible. Cincinnati Children's \$120 million investment in the Proton Therapy Center is a demonstration of our deep commitment to providing children with the most sophisticated, effective cancer treatment available.

