

PRESS RELEASE



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Breast Cancer Patient Benefits from Local Access to World-Class Cancer Treatment

Jacksonville, Florida. — This Friday, April 29, 2016 marks Ackerman Cancer Center's first full year of treating cancer patients with proton beam therapy. As the nation's only physician-owned, private practice to offer this innovative cancer treatment, Ackerman Cancer Center has treated patients from seven states and two countries, but the Center's focus is on serving as a community resource for local patients in Jacksonville, Amelia Island, and St. Augustine, like Breast Cancer survivor Christy Rigney.

At a routine mammogram, Rigney, age 41, discovered that, like her paternal aunt, she too had breast cancer. She went to Ackerman Cancer Center for a consultation on the recommendation of a friend whose mother works for the Center. Proton therapy limits cancer treatment side effects by reducing radiation exposure to healthy tissues and critical organs adjacent to the target tumor, a large part of why Ms. Rigney opted for proton treatment, in conjunction with surgery and chemotherapy.

"I have a history of heart issues, and the fact that Proton Therapy limited the exposure of radiation to my heart and lungs made it the ideal treatment for me," says Rigney. "I have considered myself very fortunate throughout my journey for many reasons, one of which is because I was lucky enough to qualify for Proton Therapy and another because I found Ackerman Cancer Center."

Ackerman Cancer Center offers a variety of radiation oncology treatment modalities, including image-modulated radiation therapy (IMRT), stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS), and on-site diagnostic testing. The practice is installing a second proton therapy unit, the MEVION S250i with HYPERSCAN pencil beam scanning technology, which will begin treating patients in 2017.

For more information or to coordinate an interview, contact Communications Manager Aryn Lentz.

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About Ackerman Cancer Center

Ackerman Cancer Center's mission is to be the first resource where patients turn when diagnosed with any type of cancer. Ackerman Cancer Center provides the most advanced radiation oncology treatment available, in a compassionate and respectful environment. A highly trained staff of radiation oncologists and medical professionals provide convenient access of care at three locations across Northeast Florida. Learn more at

www.ackermancancercenter.com.

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