

A cross-sectional study of childhood cancers treated with proton radiation therapy in Canada

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Goal

Canadian children requiring proton beam therapy (PBT) must travel outside Canada for treatment, creating logistical, financial, and care-coordination challenges. This study examines barriers to PBT access and patient/family and provider experiences across the care continuum.



Objective

1. Describe patient and family barriers to proton therapy, including social and financial factors
2. Identify health care provider barriers to referral and treatment
3. Describe the Canadian paediatric cancer population receiving proton beam radiation and their outcomes

Study Method

Study Design

Mixed-methods (cross-sectional surveys, semi-structured interviews, retrospective chart review)

Population

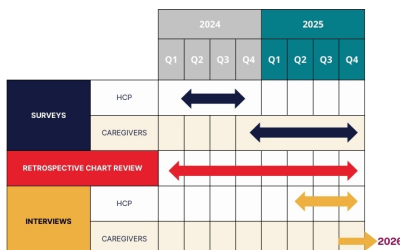
- Patients ≤20 years treated with curative-intent PBT at C16 Canadian centres; Caregivers of eligible patients; Canadian referring and U.S. treating HCPs

Data Sources

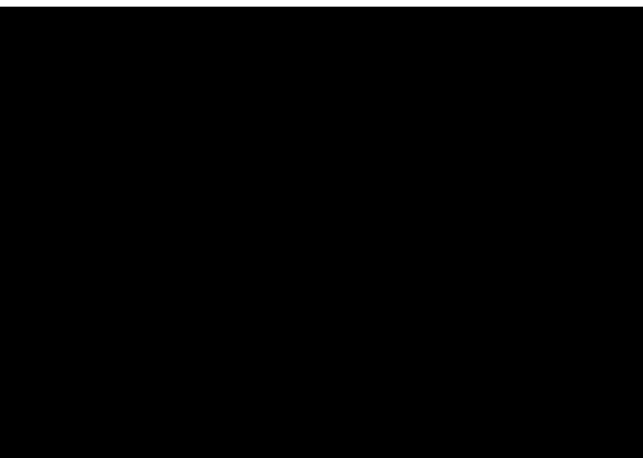
- Surveys: Study-specific and validated measures (PROMIS, PedsQL)
- Semi-structured Interviews: HCPs & Caregivers
- Charts: Retrospective clinical and treatment data



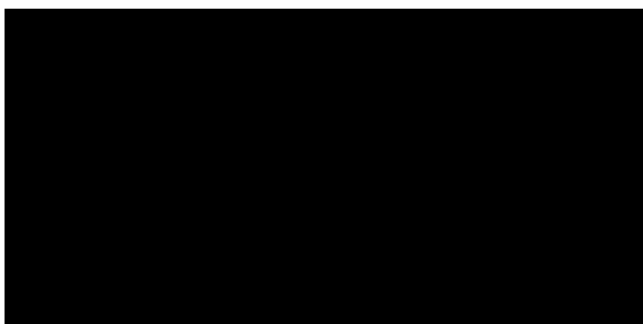
Study Timeline



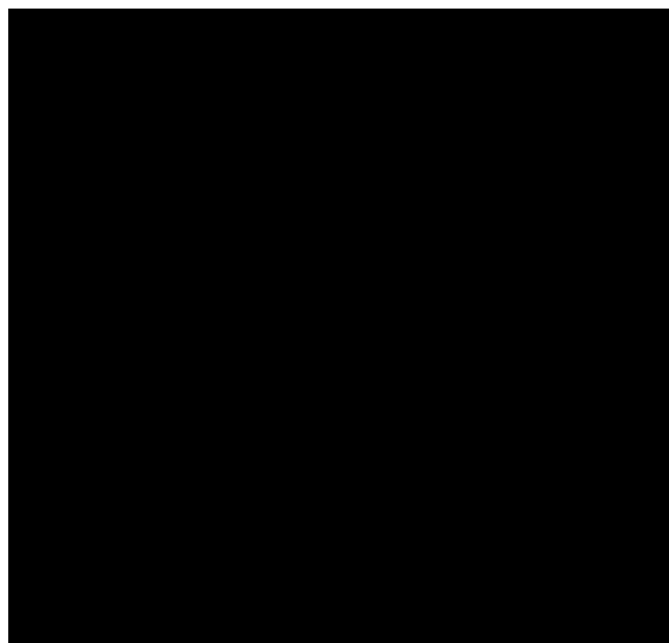
Retrospective Results



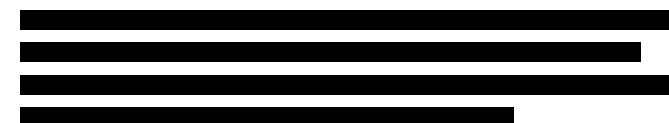
Survey Results



Interview Results



Impact/Outcomes



Acknowledgement

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