

PRESS RELEASE



ACKERMAN
Cancer Center

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Young Cancer Survivor Honored as 1,000th Proton Therapy Patient

Jacksonville, FL – At a private reception surrounded by fellow patients, cancer survivors and her care team, Ackerman Cancer Center was proud to honor Alyssa Castro – a 25-year-old Jacksonville woman diagnosed with Hodgkin Lymphoma, as their 1,000th Proton Therapy patient.

“It is very comforting to know that I am the 1,000th patient. It helps to know that other people have gone through the same thing and had great success, and that I am in great hands with the team that is taking care of me,” said Alyssa.

Alyssa Castro was diagnosed with Hodgkin Lymphoma, cancer of the lymphatic system, at the young age of 25. In addition to receiving chemotherapy, radiation therapy was crucial piece of her cancer plan. One of the many advances in the treatment of Hodgkin Lymphoma is the utilization of targeted therapies, such as Proton Therapy.

“Proton Therapy was an ideal choice for Ms. Castro’s case. Being that she is so young, we want to ensure that we spare as much healthy tissue as possible to prevent secondary cancers later in life,” says Babita Jyoti, MD, the lead physician on Alyssa’s case. “We are seeing excellent cure rates with Proton Therapy because we are able to control the beam and precisely deliver radiation to only the cancer site.”

One thousand patients is a major milestone for any proton therapy center, but as the first single-room Proton Therapy center in the world to reach the milestone, it has special significance.

“The first thousand patients becomes the foundation for the next thousand, and the thousand after that. I am very excited to build on that foundation to continue to provide high quality, life saving care for the patients in our community,” said Scot Ackerman, MD, Medical Director of Ackerman Cancer Center.

Ackerman Cancer Center has been caring for cancer patients in the Jacksonville community for more than 30 years and added Proton Therapy to the practice in April 2015. They are the first private, physician-owned practice to offer Proton Therapy and only one of 28 Proton Therapy facilities in the country.

For more information on Ackerman Cancer Center please contact Aryn Lentz at (904) 880-5522 or visit <http://ackermancancercenter.com/>

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About Ackerman Cancer Center

Ackerman Cancer Center is a private, physician-owned radiation oncology practice with offices in Northeast Florida. With more than 30 years of experience, the interdisciplinary team is dedicated to the highest level of care for patients and their families. The center offers advanced radiation treatment options, including Proton Therapy, on-site diagnostic services and comprehensive support services, including oncology social workers and dietitians. Learn more at www.ackermancancercenter.com.