

PTCOG
PROTON THERAPY CO-OPERATIVE GROUP

A group has been formed at a meeting in Boston on 9/18/85 to work for the advancement of proton (and other light ion) therapy. Membership in this group, and in its working subcommittees, is open to all.

Three working groups have been formed in the following areas:


- Clinical applications
- Facility design
- Accelerator design

In addition, a steering committee has been formed consisting of the chairperson of PTCOG (H. D. Suit), the secretary of the PTCOG (M. Goitein), and the chairpersons and alternate chairpersons of the three subcommittees.

Those interested in becoming members of the PTCOG should write to the secretary who will include them in all future mailings. Anyone interested in actively participating in one or more of the working groups should indicate this to the secretary at the time of writing. The appropriate chairpersons will contact them shortly thereafter. All funding for travel and other expenses must be borne by the individual members.

Meetings of the steering committee and the working groups will be held shortly, probably at Chicago O'Hare airport on Thursday October 24th.

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF A WORKING MEETING

at the MARRIOTT INN

LAMBERT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24th 1985

The first working meeting of PTCOG will be held on Thursday October 24th, 1985 at the Marriott Inn (I-90 at Lambert Airport) in St Louis, Missouri (meeting rooms will be identified in the hotel lobby). Please note that this is NOT at O'Hare airport as originally conceived, due to the unavailability of space there. The schedule is as follows:

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|------------------------|---|
| 10am – 12:30pm | Steering committee meeting to finalize charges to the working groups |
| 1:15pm – 5:45pm | Simultaneous meetings of the 3 working groups to review their charges and to develop plans and assign responsibilities for future work. |
| 5:45pm – 6:30pm | Steering committee meeting to address any issues brought up by the working groups. |

The working group meetings are open to all – although there is a presumption that attendees are willing to be assigned work! The steering committee meetings are intended for the members of the steering committee only.

The meeting times have been picked, so far as is possible to allow most people to get in and out of St. Louis in one day.

First drafts of charges to the working groups are included with this announcement. These have not been seen, even by members of the steering committee, who in their wisdom may wish to change them completely. Your comments on these charges, before the meeting, would be gratefully received. Outlines of some possible work scopes for the working groups will be available by the time of the meeting.

It is particularly important that we get an indication of the likely number of attendees at the meeting **as soon as possible** in order to reserve adequate meeting space at the hotel.

A small block of rooms has been reserved at the Marriott Inn under the name “Proton Therapy

Workshop". If you need a room you must book it yourself – before October 15th! The number to call is (314) 423-9700. The room rate is \$79/night.

VERY IMPORTANT:

Please fill out the attached form and mail it to M. Goitein at the letterhead address **as soon as possible**. You must do this, even if you do not plan to come to the meeting, in order to become a PTCOG member and receive future mailings.

(Form was attached to the original)

Draft of October 3, 1985

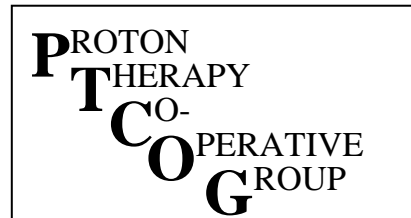


CHARGE TO

ACCELERATOR DESIGN

WORKING GROUP

- Develop a set of characteristics of a proton accelerator, which could be used as:
 - A framework within which designs of proton accelerators could be structured and evaluated
 - A framework for a set of specifications of a proton accelerator
- Develop performance specifications for a proton accelerator
- Identify areas in which further research and development is needed and, if possible, undertake or catalyze effort in these areas.
- Develop a process by which a proton accelerator design could be evaluated, and establish criteria for such an evaluation
- Identify mechanisms to promote and facilitate the development of designs, including a consideration of whether funding should be sought for this purpose.



CHARGE TO

CLINICAL APPLICATIONS

WORKING GROUP

- Identify application of proven clinical value
- Identify applications of current research interest
- Identify applications likely to be of interest for future research
- Determine whether and for what reasons a proton medical facility should be based in a hospital setting and what ancillary capabilities should be in close proximity
- Communicate any special requirements for facilities or accelerators for the other working groups
- For the identified clinical applications
 - Determine probable patient numbers
 - Estimate costs and identify possible sources of revenue
 - Determine the appropriate capacity of a facility (number of treatment bays etc.)
- Develop the outline for a national program
- Estimate the number of facilities appropriate for a national program, which would include both currently accepted clinical applications and research into clinical applications of protons.



CHARGE TO

FACILITY DESIGN

WORKING GROUP

- Develop a set of characteristics of a Proton Medical Facility (PMF), which could be used as:
 - A framework within which designs of PMFs could be structured and evaluated
 - A framework for a set of specifications of a PMF
- Develop performance specifications for a PMF
- Explicitly consider the extent to which a light ion beam (say, helium) would offer clinically significant improvements over a proton beam and make a recommendation as to whether its expense would be justified
- Consider the impact, which the facility specifications may have on the accelerator specifications and communicate these to the accelerator design working group
- Identify areas in which further research and development is needed and, if possible, undertake or catalyze effort in these areas.
- Develop a process by which a PMF design could be evaluated, and establish criteria for such an evaluation
- Identify mechanisms to promote and facilitate the development of PMF designs, including a consideration of whether funding should be sought for this purpose.