

Testimony of Doug Gray
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Doug Gray:

Proton therapy is NOT approved for every condition. It is approved for SOME and is included as a benefit for some. For some it is not and that is because research has to be done and there has to be a standard, an external standard by professional physicians that approve it for particular conditions.

So for example, a child has an eye cancer and you can target with Proton Beam therapy. Absolutely, approved for that. It is NOT generally accepted for prostate cancer which is very common. Some choose to pay for it out of their own pocket but it is not part of the essential health benefit and it is not commonly covered by health insurance and has never been and will never be until there is a standard that approves it for that condition across the board.

And we've had this conversation previously so let's be sure we're clear about the facts. The facts are that if its been approved by a group of professionals as the standard, then the insurance company will recognize it but it has not and that's where we are today.

It depends on the cancer. For some cancers, it absolutely is covered. So that's what's going on in the world.