



UnitedHealth Group®

9  
1  
0  
2  
1  
1  
2  
4  
1  
6  
8  
2  
6

THIS DOCUMENT WAS RECEIVED IN

APPEAL PO BOX 30432 or FAX 801-938-2100, SLC, UT-RMO WEST

FAX

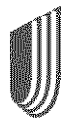
05/04/2021

0900

**United Health Group - West, Central and Cirrus RMO**

Operated by Firstsource Solutions

1355 South 4700 West  
Salt Lake City, UT 84104



**UnitedHealthcare®**  
A UnitedHealth Group Company

**RECEIVED  
VIA  
FAX/FTP**

**BEST COPY AVAILABLE**

**DO NOT Return to the RMO for  
Rescan**

9  
1  
0  
2  
1  
1  
2  
4  
1  
6  
8  
2  
6

# FAX

**To:**  
Company:  
Fax: 8019382100  
Phone:

**From:**  
Fax:  
Phone:  
E-mail:

---

## NOTES:

CA160902D639DFB E&I

---

Unauthorized interception of this facsimile could be a violation of federal and state law. We are required to safeguard privileged, confidential and/or protected health information by applicable law. The information in this document is for the sole use of the person(s) or company named above. If this you have received this fax in error, please contact us by phone immediately to arrange for return of the documents.

If you have difficulty with this transmission, please contact the number above.

**Date and time of transmission:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 9:29:34 AM  
**Number of pages including this cover sheet:** 55

EMORY PROTON THERAPY CENTER  
GEORGIA PROTONCARE CENTER  
MMBC, LLC.  
615 PEACHTREE ST NE  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30308-7302  
P: 410-706-4528  
F: 443-836-4046

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEETS

TO: <b>APPEAL</b>	FROM: <b>KERRY MURPHY</b>
COMPANY:	DATE: <b>5/3/2021</b>
FAX NUMBER: <b>801-994-1083</b>	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
PHONE NUMBER:	SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER:
RE: ID: DOB: <b>URGENT 2<sup>ND</sup> LEVEL APPEAL REQUEST. CASE# A120882651</b>	

URGENT      FOR REVIEW      PLEASE COMMENT      PLEASE REPLY      PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

PLEASE ACCEPT THIS URGENT 2<sup>ND</sup> LEVEL APPEAL REQUEST ON BEHALF OF JIMMY LOO (ID: 945208633 DOB: 12/2/1964) FOR PROTON BEAM RADIATION THERAPY ORDERED BY DR. SOUMON RUDRA (TAX ID: 82-0845208) FOR A DIAGNOSIS OF C49.0. THIS TREATMENT WILL BE RENDERED AT THE PHYSICIAN'S FREESTANDING LOCATION, EMORY PROTON THERAPY CENTER (FREESTANDING OFFICE TAX ID: 82-0845208 ADDRESS: (615 PEACHTREE ST NE., ATLANTA, GA 30308) FOR A TOTAL OF 45 VISITS FOR A 6 MONTH TIME PERIOD. ALL APPLICABLE OPT CODES FOR THIS TREATMENT ARE LISTED BELOW. PLEASE CALL ME DIRECTLY SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS.THANK YOU!

77523, 77522, 77525, 77263, 77334, 77470, 77321, 77370, 77301, 77338, 77300, 77293, 77427, 77336, 77014, 77387, G6002, (ALL FOR 45 VISITS)

\*\*\*\*CANCER DIAGNOSIS- PLEASE MARK URGENT\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*COMPARATIVE PLAN ATTACHED, PLEASE CONTACT ME FOR COLOR COPY

KERRY MURPHY  
BILLING COORDINATOR  
MMBC, LLC.  
410-706-4528 (DIRECT)  
443-836-4046 (FAX)

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: THE DOCUMENT(S) ACCOMPANYING THIS FAX CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION WHICH IS LEGALLY PRIVILEGED. THE INFORMATION IS ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INTENDED RECIPIENT NAMED ABOVE. IF THE PERSON RECEIVING THIS TRANSMISSION IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT OR THE RECIPIENT'S AGENT, PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ANY DISCLOSURE, COPYING, DISTRIBUTION, OR OTHER ACTION INVOLVING THIS TELECOPIED INFORMATION, EXCEPT ITS DIRECT DELIVERY TO THE INTENDED RECIPIENT NAMED, IMMEDIATELY, BY TELEPHONE (COLLECT CALL, IF LONG DISTANCE) TO ARRANGE FOR THE RETURN OF THE ORIGINAL FAX DOCUMENT(S) TO US.



EMORY  
UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE

Department of  
Radiation Oncology

April 21, 2021

Re: Jimmy Loo  
DOB: 12/02/1964  
Reference #: A120661365

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing this letter on behalf of my patient, Jimmy Loo, to appeal the recent denial for use of proton therapy for treatment of a **recurrent squamous cell carcinoma in the left neck**. He has a history of stage IVB T4aN3b squamous cell carcinoma of the hypopharynx and completed chemoradiation on 12/2/2019 with a dose of 70 Gy in 35 fractions. He required a salvage left neck dissection in 5/14/2020 for residual disease. I am requesting that a radiation oncologist, specifically one with experience in treating patients with both protons and photons/X-rays, review this case in appeal.

I have included a brief description of Jimmy Loo's history of present illness and our recommendations below:

Mr. Loo is a 56 year old man with history of T4aN3b squamous cell carcinoma of the hypopharynx who completed chemoradiation to 70Gy on 12/2/2019. He underwent subsequent salvage left neck dissection with pec flap on 5/14/20 with residual foci of disease found on surgical pathology. He now has biopsy proven left neck squamous cell carcinoma recurrence. **He is planned for salvage surgery with plans for post-operative re-irradiation. Sparing of the surrounding normal tissue cannot be achieved with standard radiation therapy techniques.**

In order to evaluate the anticipated individual clinical benefits of proton therapy in Jimmy Loo's care, comparative treatment planning was performed using our institutional standard techniques. Jimmy Loo is planned for surgery and postoperative radiation. Given the short timeframe for initiation of postoperative radiation treatment in head and neck cancer, preoperative imaging has been used which approximates the anticipated postoperative treatment volume. For photon (X-ray) therapy, a volumetric modulated arc therapy plan was developed (an advanced form of IMRT). For proton therapy, the plan is using pencil beam scanning proton therapy. Based on analysis of this comparative planning, proton therapy is recommended for Jimmy Loo in order to reduce the immediate

EMORY  
PROTON THERAPY CENTER  
WINSHIP CANCER INSTITUTE

615 Peachtree St NE  
Atlanta, GA 30308  
T: 404.251.2690  
F: 404.251.1245

and late toxicities of head and neck radiotherapy especially in the setting of re-irradiation.

Proton therapy is recommended to reduce the radiation dose to all structures in the head and neck but especially the oral cavity which may result in a decreased risk of mucositis as well as a decreased risk of acute or late complications for all structures in the head and neck given prior high dose radiation.

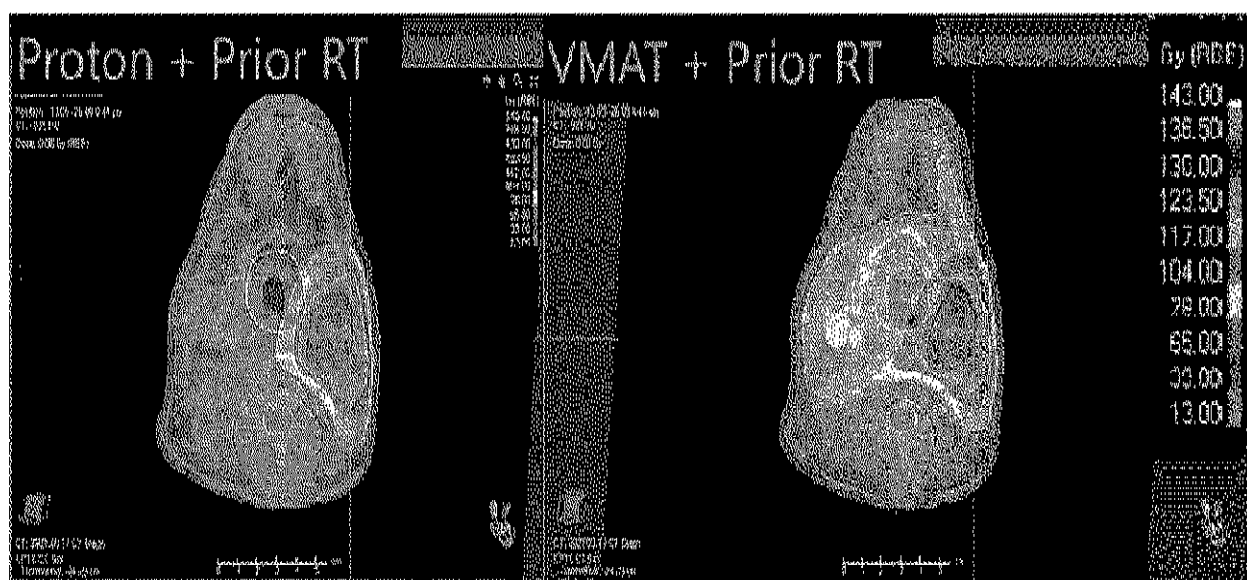
According to the most recent version of the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO)'s model policy on proton beam therapy [1], re-irradiation cases are considered "Group 1" disease site for which medical necessity requirements and published clinical data support the use of proton therapy. ASTRO's model policy is meant to efficiently communicate what ASTRO believes to be correct coverage policies for radiation oncology services. Jimmy Loo has been offered participation in our multi-institutional registry study for patients treated with proton therapy (NCT02040467). This prospective outcome tracking study also meets ASTRO's recommendations for coverage with evidence development. Current NCCN clinical practice guidelines (v3.2019) support the use of proton therapy as a radiation treatment approach for head and neck cancers especially in the setting of re-irradiation.

Representative screen shots and the dose volume histogram from the comparative planning follow, with the **Proton plan on the Left** and the **IMRT plan on the Right**:

Screenshot(s) of comparative treatment plans



[1] American Society for Radiation Oncology, Model Policy for Proton Beam Therapy, available online [www.astro.org](http://www.astro.org), approved June 2017.



The dose volume histograms and dose statistics follow:

