NRG Oncology conducts practice-changing, multi-institutional clinical and translational research to improve the lives of patients with cancer. Founded in 2012, NRG Oncology is a Pennsylvania-based nonprofit corporation that integrates the research of the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project (NSABP), the Radiation Therapy Oncology Group (RTOG), and the Gynecologic Oncology Group (GOG). The research network seeks to carry out clinical trials with emphases on gender-specific malignancies, including gynecologic, breast, and prostate cancers, and on localized or locally advanced cancers of all types. NRG Oncology’s extensive research organization comprises multidisciplinary investigators, including medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, surgeons, physicists, pathologists, and statisticians, and encompasses more than 1,300 research sites located world-wide with predominance in the United States and Canada. NRG Oncology is supported primarily through grants from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and is one of five research groups in the NCI’s National Clinical Trials Network.
Frequently Asked Questions

What is a clinical trial?
Clinical Trials are research studies that look to find better ways to prevent, diagnose, or treat disease.

Who can join this study?
In addition to having hepatocellular carcinoma, there are other eligibility requirements to participate in this study. Your doctor can determine if you meet these requirements.

Am I required to be in this study?
No. Taking part in this study is voluntary. You are free to choose to participate, not to participate, or to leave the study at any time. If you decide not to take part in this study, your doctor will discuss other treatment options with you.

What are the possible treatments?
All patients will be randomly assigned to two separate treatment groups. Group 1 will receive proton radiation therapy for the usual length of time at the usual total dose for this type of cancer, as recommended by your treating physician. This may be 5 treatments over two weeks or 15 treatments over three weeks. Group 2 will receive photon radiation therapy for the usual length of time at the usual total dose for this type of cancer, as recommended by your treating physician. This may be 5 treatments over two weeks or 15 treatments over three weeks.

How long will I be in this study?
You will receive radiation for the usual length (5 or 15 treatments over a period of 15 to 24 days) unless you can no longer tolerate the treatment. After you finish the radiation therapy, your doctor will continue to watch you for side effects and follow your condition for 5 years.

Are there side effects?
Possible risks for patients who receive radiation therapy include tiredness, swelling, redness, and/or sores in the area of radiation. Some more serious risks include nausea, vomiting, pain, internal bleeding, diarrhea, gas, blockage of the stomach, broken bones, bruising, and bleeding. Your doctor will review all of the potential side effects with you.

More Information
You may visit the NCI website at cancer.gov for more information about studies or general information about cancer.

You may also call the NCI Cancer Information Service to get the same information at 1-(800)-4-CANCER (1-800-422-6237)