



PTCS

Proton Therapy Center Switzerland AG

2 What is the difference between proton and X-ray radiation?

X-rays are ionizing, electromagnetic rays which are created by the physical process of Bremsstrahlung. Fast electrons collide in heavy metals and produce X-rays. Highly energetic X-rays are used for irradiating cancer patients. Both X-rays and proton rays are ionizing radiation that can destroy tissue cells. Only specially trained experts are therefore allowed to handle either type of radiation. Approval for handling or operation is granted by the relevant regulatory agency, the Department of Radiation Protection at the Federal Office for Health.