

Clinical trial gives Providence patient his life back

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Bill Richardson and Dr. John Godwin, oncologist at Providence Cancer Institute, discuss Bill's amazing cancer-free outcome.

PROVIDENCE CANCER INSTITUTE – Four to six weeks. That was the time Bill Richardson had left after repeated chemotherapy treatments proved unsuccessful against his lymphoma. Bill's oncologist suggested one last chance might be a new CAR T-cell clinical trial led John Godwin, M.D., oncologist at Providence Cancer Institute.



"For me, it was an easy decision. I was either going to check out really soon or I was going to check out a little later. I signed the paper," Bill says.

The CAR T-cell trial is for patients with a specific type of lymphoma who have experienced unsuccessful first line treatments. In the trial, the patient's T cells are extracted, reengineered and four weeks later, placed back into the patient to fight the cancer.

After receiving the treatment, Bill felt immediate relief.

"We tested him at 30 days, but he could feel the difference probably overnight," Dr. Godwin says.

Four weeks after receiving his T cells back in an infusion, Bill underwent a scan. His tumors had disappeared. Instead of planning his funeral, Bill is now planning his future.

Dr. Godwin is thrilled with Bill's results and continues working with other patients in the trial.

"This is so new. We are at the beginning of a potential revolution with this treatment," Dr. Godwin says.

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