

RESEARCH GROUP WORK PLAN **2021-2022**

CONTEXT

The objects for which the Society and College of Radiographers (SCoR) is established include:

“To promote study and research work in radiography and radiotherapeutic technology and allied subjects and to publish the results of all such study and research.”

Constituted in 2002, the aim of the Research Advisory Group is to help the SCoR fulfil the above object, by ensuring all radiographers use research in their practice and engage in the research process, thereby establishing, refining and adding to radiography's unique body of knowledge.

2021-2026 Research Strategy

The fifth Research Strategy presented by the College of Radiographers (CoR) conveys research as a key part of the College of Radiographers' mission:

The College of Radiographers will promote imaging and radiotherapy science and practice for the benefit of all. We will do this through:

- Standards for education and practice
- Promoting and conducting research
- Listening to patients and service users

The Research Strategy is inclusive of all levels of the profession from student to expert practitioners and at all levels of research, from novice through to research professorships.

All patients undergoing diagnostic imaging or radiotherapy deserve evidence-based practice to underpin the care they receive. The Research Strategy supports the radiography profession in delivering this over the next five years.

The Society of Radiographers Vision for Research

The vision for research is to improve patient care and outcomes by continuing to develop, grow and implement a high-quality evidence base that addresses key patient-focussed research priorities.

Aims

The strategy has three key aims:

- **Embed and enable research** at all levels of radiography practice and education;
- Raise the impact and profile of radiography through high quality research focussed on **improving patient care and service delivery;**

- **Expand UK radiography research capacity** through development of skilled and motivated research active profession.

RATIONALE

The Research Group will be fundamental in implementing and further developing the Research Strategy, by providing guidance, support and advice to help raise the radiographic research and publication profile.

OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH GROUP

1. To seek to establish and embed a research role for radiographers within the evolving collaborative, interprofessional team, thereby delivering high quality patient focused services and promoting the knowledge, skills, and values of radiographers in the wider health care environment.
2. To continue with the research capacity data collection at appropriate intervals. This will assess the professional and educational level of radiographers and enable the Research Group to identify and recommend potential expansion areas for the research agenda.
3. Act as a consulting and advisory body without executive powers. Members of the Research Group shall have a responsibility to act as a source of expertise and leadership for radiographers striving to extend their scope of practice into research.
4. To advise the Council on issues of research and to recommend strategic activities in pursuit of a fully developed research based profession.
5. To develop professional guidelines for approval and publication by The Society and College of Radiographers, as appropriate.
6. To formulate the future strategic research direction for pre-registration and practicing radiographers for consideration by The Society and College of Radiographers.
7. To act as a forum for consideration of all professional research issues affecting radiographers.
8. Communicate the work of the Research Group to radiographic members, members of participating organisations, and other national bodies on its position relating to research and clinical effectiveness.
9. To encourage the adoption of the Five-Year Strategic Plan in all UK departments and HEIs.
10. To encourage each UK department to form local research strategies.

MEETINGS

The group will normally hold a minimum of two meetings per annum.

TARGETS FOR 2021-2022

1. Raising radiography research awareness – in the press and via the Research special interest group, social media, and via members of the research group presenting at study days to promote the research strategy. **Lead: all group members**
2. Assessment of CoRIPS Research Grants, Doctoral Fellowships, and dissemination grants. **Lead: Ruth Strudwick**
3. Continue development of research mentorship and support via FoRMM. **Lead: Christina Malamateniou**
4. A series of research webinars across 4 months. **Lead: all group members**
5. Doctoral Den at UKIO. **Lead: Ruth Strudwick**
6. Contribution to the new Education and Career Framework. **Lead: all group members**
7. Clinical academic guidance. **Lead: Tracy O'Regan**

ACHIEVING THE TARGETS

The Chair of the group will prepare an annual report for CoR Board of Trustees.

To confirm achievement of targets, the group will monitor the progress of ongoing work to ensure it remains within time frames and budgets.

Accountability of the group is via the Chair.

ESTIMATED COSTS

15 members x 2 meetings a year
Additional work/small group meetings
Supporting member attendance at events

BENEFITS

- Raising the profile of research across the profession.
- Implementing the SCoR Research Strategy
- Promoting links with other professional bodies and with industrial partners.

- Providing a communication link and research advice resource for members.
- Acquiring consultancy contributions from HEIs.