

Minutes of Brachytherapy Radiographer's Forum

Wednesday 13th June 2012, SCoR headquarters, London

Attendees	Apologies
Glenda Logsdail (Northampton)	Mary Wilkins (RMH, London)
Gemma Allen (Birmingham)	Katy Taylor (RMH, London)
Mandy Snee (Clatterbridge, Liverpool)	Elaine Hackett (Portsmouth)
Janella Miranda (Clatterbridge, Liverpool)	Cathy Taylor (Christie, Manchester)
Katy Gough (Stoke on Trent, North Staffordshire)	Laura Lane (Christie, Manchester)
Heather Dias (Maidstone)	Polly Anjam (Velindre, Cardiff)
Karen Bew (Poole, Dorset)	Carol Ewan (Guildford, Surrey)
Pauline Humphrey (Bristol)	Rachel Harris (SCoR)
Eleanor Armstrong (UCLH, London)	Michelle Campbell (Romford)
Gloria Bryan (Barts and the London)	Louise Bleakley (Edinburgh)
Stephanie Garbutt (Barts and the London)	Liz Hughes (Norfolk & Norwich)
Angela Cox (Imperial, London)	Katie Cooper (Norfolk & Norwich)
Kate Firkins (Southampton)	Carole Hornsby (Tayside)
Julie Calvert (Southampton)	Sophie Wetherall (Varian)
Rachel Kirby (Addenbrookes)	Jacqueline Walters (Wolverhampton)
Michelle Cook (Varian)	Gemma Burke (Sheffield Hallam)- on maternity leave
Andy Clarke (Nucletron)	
Lisa Colling (Nucletron)	
Spencer Goodman (UWE, Bristol)	
David Wood (Christie, Manchester)	
Trish Pick (Lincoln)	
Lucy Darby (Lincoln)	
Gill Thomas (Wolverhampton)	
Clare Wilkinson (Leeds)	

1. The meeting started at 13.30. Pauline welcomed the group to SCoR HQ, London.
2. Brachytherapy Forum business

Pauline agreed to continue as co-chair for a further year (with a view to standing down next year) and Clare stood down. Glenda Logsdail was nominated and appointed as co-chair. No other nominations.

Minutes from mtg June 2011 were accepted as accurate.

Terms of reference were reviewed. No changes required.

Workplan 2011/2 was reviewed.

Target 1. To form a working party to set up a Brachytherapy workshop at the Advanced Practice Conference at Sheffield Hallam Oct 2012. This conference was postponed, therefore the working party was not required. It is likely that this will take place in October 2013, therefore names put forward for a new working party to meet/discuss plans for brachy workshop In New year 2013. NB Gemma Burke may be back from maternity leave around this time, will be asked to co-ordinate working party. Volunteers for working party: Clare Wilkinson, Pauline Humphrey, Glenda Logsdail, Mandy Snee, Katy Gough, Heather Dias, Karen Bew, David Wood.

Target 2. To encourage and support rads in publication of brachy related articles and report back to forum.

Glenda- article in Synergy News May 2012 re teaching in her new consultant role

Glenda- named author on oesophagus paper awaiting publication . Presented at NCR Cancer Conference, 2011. Poster session B, B30.

Glenda and Rachel Kirby attended GEC-ESTRO/World Congress May 2012

Pauline- article due to be published in Synergy news July 2012 re Bristol brachy module

Ellie – Cochrane review 2010: ***Follow up protocols for women with cervical cancer after primary treatment (Protocol)***. Lancelley A, McCormack M, Armstrong E et al

Agreement to have same objectives for workplan 2012/3 To be updated and uploaded to SCoR website

Action PH

Discussed date/venue for next year's meeting. All agreed that SCoR HQ was an excellent venue, easy to get to and not too expensive if timing OK for off peak travel. Date chosen Wednesday 19th June 2013.

3. Glenda Logsdail- gave an overview of presentations at the GEC-ESTRO/World Congress May 2012 relating to prostate and breast brachytherapy. Lively discussions were had around the topic of brachytherapy for focal prostate treatment and monotherapy. Peter Hoskin had presented on monotherapy, manageable urinary toxicity, possibly greater need for re-catheterisation after 19 Gy single fraction. Promising biochemical results for patient given 26Gy. Clare (Leeds) said that they had used brachytherapy for salvage prostate treatment after EBRT. Images shown of focal therapy. Breast brachy- techniques discussed.
4. Rachel Kirby - gave an overview of presentations at the GEC-ESTRO/World Congress May 2012 relating to Gynae and miscellaneous brachytherapy. This promoted a lot of interest and questions from the group, discussions re MRI planning for ca cervix and implementation of ESTRO/ RCR guidelines.
5. Andy Clarke from Nucletron gave a presentation breast brachytherapy techniques.
6. David Wood (Christie) gave an informative presentation on PDR Gynae brachy and the Christie experience in setting this up.
7. Heather Dias spoke about her experience of the Bristol brachytherapy module 2011 and the essay that she had written for this.
8. Michelle Cook from Varian- Update on integration of iX brachytherapy software with the Brachyvision planning software and Aria radiotherapy information system.

9. Pauline gave a presentation on the new international guidelines for use of dilators. Discussion about lack of evidence base for this. Karen (Poole) said that they will be doing an audit of compliance, but perhaps could increase this to try and assess effectiveness of dilation.
10. Clare led a discussion on prostate fiducial markers. She talked about setting up a radiographer led fiducial marker service. The centres already doing this service had various ways of doing it, from general anaesthetic to nothing (something to do with southern softies!). The majority did the procedure trans-rectally using ultrasound. The consensus was that the procedure was very quick to perform and improved the accuracy of the EBRT treatment.

Meeting closed at 17.30 hrs.

*****Many thanks to Varian for sponsoring lunch and to Nucletron for drinks after the meeting. And many thanks to both Andy Clarke, Lisa Collings, Nucletron, and Michelle Cook, Varian, for their presentations and attendance at the meeting and on-going support of the group*****

*****Many thanks to Rachel, Tanya, Jane and IT help from Jason at SCoR HQ*****

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 19th June 2013

Venue: SCoR headquarters, London. PH and GL to organise, plan agenda.