Clinically authorise and prescribe radiation treatment



Overview

This standard is concerned with the authorisation of a radiation treatment plan for a specific patient for its clinical applicability and the generation of the treatment prescription. The individual must be able to review the individual patient's treatment plan to ensure that it meets clinical requirements and to prescribe the radiotherapy regime. The level of practice is consultant practitioner. It is assumed that those undertaking this standard will be working within their professional code of conduct and will work only within their scope of practice.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies

Clinically authorise and prescribe radiation treatment

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 evaluate the appropriateness of the intended treatment against the patient's current medical status
- P2 check the intended treatment plan to ensure coverage of the tumour and optimise avoidance of critical structures
- P3 prescribe the radiotherapy regime according to local protocols and relevant clinical information to ensure safe and optimal delivery of treatment
- P4 record, collate and check all relevant data for accuracy and reproducibility, then transfer according to local protocols
- P5 review any deviations from the protocol and take appropriate action
- P6 recognise where help/advice is required, and seek this from appropriate sources

Clinically authorise and prescribe radiation treatment

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the legislation relating to radiotherapy, in the areas of:
 - K1.1 current radiation protection regulations and local rules
 - K1.2 local protocols for data entry, utilisation, recording and transfer
 - K1.3 management of particular tumour site as defined by local site specialisation protocols
 - K1.4 national and local guidelines for radiotherapy planning and treatment
- K2 the importance of recognising, and not working beyond, the limitations of your own knowledge and experience
- K3 the following:
 - K3.1 relevant anatomy and pathology e.g. regional, cross-sectional and functional
 - K3.2 concurrent and malignant disease progression and the potential impact on physiological systems
- K4 the following:
 - K4.1 tissue tolerances and acceptable treatment dose parameters
 - K4.2 the principles of radiotherapy planning
 - K4.3 relevant imaging procedures and image manipulation and interpretation
 - K4.4 impact of treatment parameters, or changes to treatment parameters, on dose distribution
 - K4.5 current radiotherapy techniques for relevant tumour sites
- K5 the following:
 - K5.1 care of equipment
 - K5.2 appropriate equipment for treatment plan evaluation
 - K5.3 equipment capabilities and limitations
- K6 the following:
 - K6.1 roles and responsibilities of other team members
 - K6.2 knowledge and understanding required to critically appraise the prescribed treatment against relevant planning/patient information
- K7 relevance of other treatment modalities and clinical conditions

Clinically authorise and prescribe radiation treatment

Additional Information

External links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB7 Interventions and treatments

Clinically authorise and prescribe radiation treatment

Developed by	Skills for Health
Version number	1
Date approved	June 2010
Indicative review date	June 2012
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating organisation	Skills for Health
Original URN	R9
Relevant occupations	Health, Public Services and Care; Medicine and Dentistry; Nursing and Subjects and Vocations Allied; Healthcare and Related Personal Services
Suite	Radiotherapy
Key words	radiotherapy, cancer