CSRT Position Proposals

Based on the success of previous phases of the Clinical Specialist Radiation Therapist (CSRT) Project, Cancer Care Ontario (CCO) received funding in 2011 for the next phase, the CSRT Sustainability Project. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has formalized funding for this next phase to support the creation of new CSRT positions in centres around Ontario. At this time there is not a Request for Plans (RFP) round open. The CSRT Sustainability Project Integration Support Team will announce new RFP rounds should any become available.

APRT Positions

The Project Oversight Committee received 21 responses to its Request for Proposals and agreed with the Selection Advisory Committee that the following positions should be piloted during April 2005 – March 2006:

Skin Cancer Advanced Practice Therapist – Toronto-Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre (TSRCC)

This position is designed to enhance the skin cancer service at TSRCC. Through expansion of the Radiation Therapist position into one of overall program coordination, patient triage, program evaluation and enhanced treatment planning competence, Radiation Oncologists and Physicists would be released to concentrate in other areas. Primarily the focus here is on increased patient care/outcomes and increased patient satisfaction through decreased wait time, enhanced continuity of care and increased access to services.

Proposal
Job Description

Planning Image Definition and Contouring Specialist – Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH) This position will specialize in identifying and contouring relevant anatomical structures. The intent of the position is to increase accuracy and consistency of contouring thereby enhancing overall patient outcomes, reducing wait time from new patient appointment to start of treatment, and more available time for Radiation Oncologists to focus elsewhere, hopefully resulting in increased access and decreased wait times for New Patients.

Proposal

Job Description

Patient Assessment and Symptom Management Review Therapist-TSRCC

This position would be responsible for triaging the high volume of "well patients" on treatment such that "expected and average" reactions to treatment can be managed by the Review Therapist and the "less well" patients with unusual reactions can have access to more quality care. The aim is to reduce the amount of time that patients must wait to be seen by an MD while still having access to excellent care, and to increase the time that Radiation Oncologists have to spend with the less well, more needy patients while reducing their overall time commitment to on treatment review appointments.

Proposal Job Description

Mycosis Fungoides Radiation Therapist – Hamilton Regional Cancer Centre

This position is designed to enhance the overall coordination within an existing Mycosis Fungoides care program. Mycosis fungoides (MF) is the most common type of cutaneous T-cell lymphoma. It is a low-grade lymphoma which primarily affects the skin. Generally it has a slow course and often remains confined to the skin. Over time, in about 10% of the cases, it can progress to the lymph nodes and internal organs) The MF Therapist will be the key professional from pretreatment/consultation phase through to follow up care through triaging, consulting and collaborating with other involved professionals. The goals of this position are to improve patient satisfaction by making the service more seamless thereby increasing patient satisfaction with the service, and improve the quality of care and access to timely care which will hopefully result in improved outcomes.

Proposal Job Description

Palliative Care Advanced Practice Radiation Therapist -- Kingston Regional Cancer Centre, Princess Margaret Hospital, and Toronto-Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre As each site submitted excellent position descriptions with similar objectives and activities, the three centres have been asked to collaborate on development of two positions. Original goals of the Kingston position were to reduce the travel requirement and wait time for palliative care patients with the hopes of increasing quality of life, as well as free up much need MD time to focus on other important activities such as new patient appointments, etc. Original goals of the PMH position were to address increased demand, the need for a richer research base, increase access to Radiotherapy for palliative care patients, decrease time from referral to treatment, and improve overall care of palliative patients through more seamless care and through education internally and externally. Original goal of TSRCC's position was to provide a comprehensive, independent and consultative assessment, referral and treatment service for palliative patients at TSRCC. The intention is to increase the appropriate use of the Rapid Response Radiotherapy Program (RRRP) with the intent of freeing up time in the Out Patient clinics where the majority of Palliative Patients are currently seen. This would hopefully lead to increased access for new patients, and improve the efficiency of the RRRP by rerouting those for booked for who Radiotherapy is not appropriate. In addition, the use of RRRP will reduce the wait time for these patients as they can be assessed and seen on same day resulting in quicker response and improved overall quality of life.

Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre

Proposal

Job Description

Princess Margaret Hospital Proposal

Job Description

Kingston General Hospital

Proposal

Job Description