



## **Clinical Specialist Radiation Therapist (CSRT) Community of Practice (CoP) Terms of Reference**

### **Background**

The role of Clinical Specialist Radiation Therapist (CSRT) was introduced by HealthForce Ontario in 2003, and a pilot investigation of the feasibility of the role was initiated in 2007. The project started with 5 CSRT roles in 2 cancer institutions, and now has grown to 24 CSRTs in 9 cancer centres around the province. CSRTs are part of a novel model of care for the cancer patient population, and consequently, it is important to foster intra- and inter-regional knowledge sharing amongst the geographical regions where CSRTs practice, and a culture of continuous quality improvement within the CSRT community. As the roles evolve and grow, the CSRTs collectively recognise there are common needs and requirements for building advanced practice skill sets. Facilitating knowledge exchange and driving quality initiatives help ensure that patients who interact with CSRTs in Ontario receive the highest quality of care. The development of a community of practice (CoP) for CSRTs involved in the cancer patients' pathway is a feasible and effective approach to enable their practice and to ensure CSRTs continue to be an important part of Ontario's cancer centres and its delivery of high-quality radiotherapy care to patients.

### **Purpose**

To advocate for and support a collective CSRT identity that will ensure role sustainability through contributing to and improving the efficacy and efficiency of patient care in radiation medicine.

### **Outcomes and Deliverables**

#### **CSRT Role Definition – Promote and affirm role identity and utilization in cancer care system**

##### **OBJECTIVES:**

- Develop and protect the standards of the CSRT role
- Demonstrate continual evidence-based impact of CSRT roles through knowledge collection of evidence/data that supports the role(s); and data management and dissemination to relevant stakeholders (i.e. via publishing of CSRT work)

#### **Encourage collaboration, knowledge generation/information sharing**

##### **OBJECTIVES:**

- Provide opportunities/forum for sharing best practices amongst CSRT roles in different institutions
- Provide opportunities for sharing and exchange of institutional experiences / processes / guidelines to enhance existing (APRT) practices

#### **Promote mentorship and peer-to-peer support network for new and existing CSRT roles**

##### **OBJECTIVES:**

- Create/Provide tools relating to impact metrics, education, etc



- Sharing of lessons learned (i.e. developing relationships, change management, overcoming barriers, establishing framework, etc.)
- Establish formal mentorship working group

The outcomes and deliverable identified above can be re-evaluated and re-prioritized based on CSRT community needs, as well as in relation to changing advanced practice and radiation therapy landscapes at hand.

### **Membership**

The CSRT CoP consists of CSRT volunteers from across the Province of Ontario.

### **Process to Alter Group Membership**

As the CSRT CoP consists of volunteers, CSRTs who wish to join the group can contact Carina Simniceanu ([Carina.Simniceanu@cancercare.on.ca](mailto:Carina.Simniceanu@cancercare.on.ca)) in order to be added to the membership list. Any CSRTs who wish to opt out of the group, can also contact Carina Simniceanu at the above stated email in order to be removed from the membership list.

### **Meeting Schedule**

#### **Provincial:**

- Participate in monthly teleconference or web-conference meetings with the provincial CSRT CoP, as scheduled
- Review and provide feedback on relevant documents circulated electronically between meetings
- Participate in provincial CSRT CoP in-person meetings held annually
- Establish guidelines to promote regular communication amongst CSRT representatives in external committees (e.g. CAMRT credentialing) and the CSRT CoP, e.g. Standing meeting agenda items for updates, in order to ensure the entire CoP is being represented

#### **Initiative/Working Group-specific:**

- Participate in the identification and prioritization of various working group initiatives
- Participate in teleconference or web-conference meetings with initiative-specific working groups, as scheduled by the Group Leads
- Review and provide feedback on relevant documents circulated electronically between meetings
- The level of participation in meetings and activities required to drive initiative-specific quality agendas may vary depending on the unique needs of the working group