



(Front) Left to right: Julie Himmelman, Carina Simniceanu, Padraig Warde, Farzana McCallum
(Back) Left to right: Eric Gutierrez, Entela Zaffino

Radiation Treatment Program Newsletter

Issue 7
Fall 2018

The purpose of the Radiation Treatment Program (RTP) Newsletter is to provide updates on RTP quality projects and highlight current provincial initiatives.

Radiation Treatment – Quality Based Procedures (RT-QBP)

Radiation Treatment Quality Based Procedures (RT-QBP)

Most of you are likely aware that the RTP is developing a QBP, scheduled to be implemented by 2020/2021.

What is a QBP?

QBP stands for “Quality Based Procedures” and is directly tied to Health System Funding Reform (HSFR). The QBP vision is to implement a new funding model that will drive consistent, equitable, and high-quality care for patients being treated with radiation. The RT-QBP model will be an activity-based bundled payment approach to:

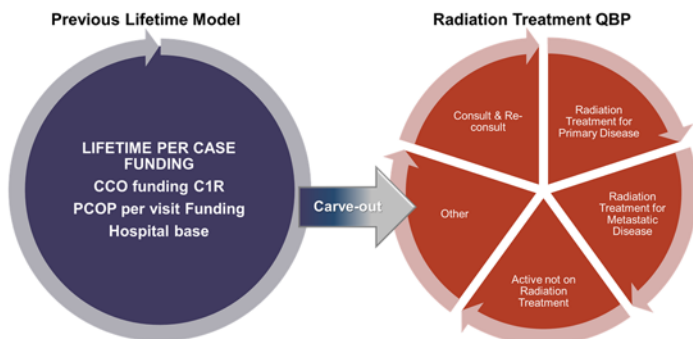
- Improve patient outcomes and experiences
- Align with best practices based on clinical evidence and expert consensus
- Improve appropriateness of care and reduce variation in care
- Facilitate efficient use of resources, and increase both the transparency and accountability of resource utilization
- Increase accessibility to services including new technologies to help ensure that Ontarians receive high quality and safe radiation treatment services, regardless of where they reside in the province



The RTP is thankful to have the support and help of its PACs, CoP members, Clinical Quality Leads (pictured above), as well as QBP Expert Panels and Working Groups along the way.

We are currently developing the following disease-sites:

- * GU
- * GI
- * Breast
- * CNS
- * Lung
- * Sarcoma
- * Head & Neck



Radiation Treatment Program Strategic Plan

Purpose

RTP is in the process of drafting the first Radiation Treatment Program (RTP) Strategic Plan to support and prioritize radiation treatment quality and safety initiatives in Ontario.

Current State

RTP is wrapping up regional stakeholder consultations to obtain feedback on the draft strategic plan priorities.

Timelines

The release of the RTP Strategic Plan is anticipated to follow the release of the Ontario Cancer Plan V, which is targeted for Fall 2019.

Proposed RTP Strategic Priorities

1. Integrated Care - Radiation Integrated Wait Times
2. Sustainability - New Funding Model (QBP)
3. Equity - Access / Utilization
4. Safety - Peer Review
5. Effectiveness - Improve Quality of Treatment

Do you have feedback or ideas on the draft priorities?
Please email
RTP@cancercare.on.ca.

Capital Investment Strategy

Capital Investment Strategy Planning Principles



Improve **timely access** to care for cancer patients, ensuring treatment machine capacity matches the need



Ensure **value for investment** maximizing use of existing infrastructure



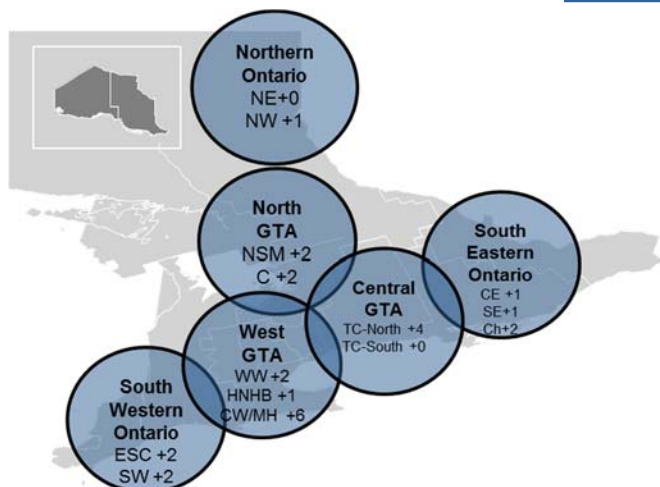
Keep pace with **advancing technology** to improve the delivery of **safe, quality care**



Minimize costs through **centralized planning** and **procurement processes**

Coming soon...

An email with a link to the complete Capital Investment Strategy document will be shared shortly!



- The graphic outlines the provincial new machine requirements in 2028 - 26 new machines are required to meet Ontario's radiation treatment needs.
- Regional Cancer Programs are grouped into pan-regions and overlap each other to indicate the interrelationships within the Ontario system.
- The relationships show potential opportunities to adjust referral patterns. The relationships do not reflect referrals for specialized care.

RADIATION TREATMENT PROGRAM: COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE UPDATES

FALL 2018



HEAD AND NECK

- Annual H&N meeting was held on March 23, 2018.
- H&N Peer Review Recommendation Report has been completed!

- HN adaptive radiotherapy/RT Plan library has been completed!



PHYSICS

- Annual meeting was held on May 14, 2018.
- New Initiatives include: patient specific quality assurance and plan check quality metrics to support the Radiation Treatment Quality

- Based Procedures work. Contact the [RTP](#) team if you are interested in being involved.



GYNECOLOGICAL CANCERS

- Annual meeting was held on May 11, 2018.
- IMRT Guidance Document for Intact Cervix Cancer is being finalized.

- The MRgBT Budget Impact Analysis model development is underway.
- MR Cost Effective Analysis is complete and manuscript is being finalized. This work was presented at ESTRO Spring 2018.



RADIATION THERAPY

- RBI Sexual Health KT project is underway. Four pilot sites were selected and champions recruitment has commenced.

- Patient education and quality assurance treatment plan checklists are now available [online](#). Provincial Incident Reporting and Centre-Specific reports are being finalized and will be distributed to RCCs in early fall.



LUNG

- Pan-Canadian Lung Peer Review Guidance document was accepted for publication by CARO.
- PET WG is examining the issue of disease progression in the time lapse between diagnostic imaging and treatment commencement.

- The Lung SBRT Framework and the Lung IGRT Module have been finalized and are available [online](#). The PET Boost Trial is underway with six sites participating and total of 21 patients enrolled



CLINICAL SPECIALIST RT

- Annual meeting was held on December 4, 2017.
- Current initiatives include: preparing publications related to palliative CSRTs, developing resources for new positions, and finding ways to capture workload/impact.

- The first CSRT CoP Annual Report was completed and is also available [online](#).
- The 4th edition of the CSRT Newsletter (IMPACT) was released electronically in September, and was distributed throughout the CARO conferences.



RADIATION SAFETY OFFICERS

- Annual meeting was held February 28, 2018 with attendance from the MOHLTC and The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC).

- Current Initiatives: radiation therapy educational initiatives, radiation safety policies and procedures, shielding calculations template, and survey for technical testing for HARP in Ontario

Additional Resources



RTP Resource Hub

The [RTP Resource Hub](#) is a centralized location where key Radiation Treatment Program documents, reports and products are housed.



Peer Review Reports

Effective October 2018, two peer review quality assurance reports will be available to all Regional Cancer Centres (RCCs). The purpose of the reports is to provide ongoing updated peer review data to assist with monitoring peer review provincial performance targets.



Radiation Peer Review Quality Assurance Report (Radical and Palliative Intent)



Palliative Radiation Peer Review Quality Assurance Report (Complex and Simple Courses)

These reports will be available on the [RTP Resource hub](#) and will be updated monthly.



Contact Us

**Coming
soon...**

RT Utilization reports will
be available in Q3.

We want to hear from you!

If you have any questions or feedback about the content of this newsletter or about the RTP, please don't hesitate to contact us. You can reach us by sending an email to our general mailbox (RTP@cancercare.on.ca) or by contacting us individually.

Dr. Padraig Warde

RTP Provincial Head

Padraig.warde@cancercare.on.ca

Eric Gutierrez

RTP Program Manager

Eric.Gutierrez@cancercare.on.ca

Farzana McCallum

RTP Team Lead

Farzana.McCallum@cancercare.on.ca

Entela Zaffino

RTP Senior Specialist

Entela.Zaffino@cancercare.on.ca

Carina Simniceanu

RTP Senior Specialist

Carina.Simniceanu@cancercare.on.ca

Julie Himmelman

RTP Specialist

Julie.Himmelman@cancercare.on.ca