Radiation Treatment Program
Implementation Plan 2019–2023

RADIATION INTEGRATED WAIT TIME

Reduce patient’s wait times from referral to Radiation Oncology to first day of treatment

Initiatives
- Analyze, understand, and describe integrated wait times locally and provincially in two fast growing tumours (head and neck and cervical cancers)
- Explore how other jurisdictions have approached this issue to gain insights for developing clinically relevant, data-driven benchmark targets
- Engage in multi-program and specialty collaboration to identify possible areas for improvement
- Support regional cancer centres in developing action plans to ensure patients receive treatment as soon as possible after diagnosis

Outcomes
- Reduction in wait times from referral to radiation oncology to start of treatment

NEW FUNDING MODEL

Develop a sustainable and equitable funding model for radiation services where funding is tied to best practice care and quality

Initiatives
- Establish radiation treatment protocols and define quality metrics based on evidence and best practices
- Implement and support the operations and ongoing maintenance of the new radiation treatment funding model

Outcomes
- Ongoing monitoring of quality metrics through regular reporting, surveys, and chart audits

OCP 5 GOALS
Timely, Person-Centred

OCP 5 GOALS
Efficient, Person-Centred

UTILIZATION

Achieve sustainable improvements in access to radiation treatment

Initiatives
- Improve and sustain radiation treatment utilization with the goal of achieving benchmarks across all regions in all patient sub-groups
- Understand and improve access to care amongst the Indigenous population in Ontario in collaboration with the provincial Indigenous Cancer Control Unit
- Explore the equity of patient access to new treatment approaches, such as curative stereotactic radiation treatment, in various cancers

Outcomes
- Improved access to state-of-the-art care for all Ontarians

OCP 5 GOALS
Equitable, Person-Centred

SAFETY/QUALITY

Improve the safety and quality of radiation treatment for Ontario patients

Initiatives
- Define and document the specific elements for best practice peer review and develop a process to measure adherence to these recommendations
- Develop and implement novel peer review strategies in other aspects of radiation treatment
- Investigate the possible role of Artificial Intelligence approaches in peer review
- Establish and facilitate peer review between regional cancer centres to support reduced variation in radiation treatment delivery across the province and promote the delivery of advanced treatment approaches closer to home

Outcomes
- Improved quality and safety of radiation treatment

OCP 5 GOALS
Safe, Person-Centred

OCP 5 GOALS
Effective, Person-Centred

INNOVATION

Support dissemination of innovative radiation treatment approaches to patients in a timely fashion

Initiatives
- Collaborate with healthcare experts to build evidence, including cost effectiveness and budget impact analyses, to assess the appropriateness and feasibility of new treatment approaches such as Magnetic Resonance Imaging Linac, Adaptive Radiotherapy, Artificial Intelligence, Proton Beam therapy
- Establish a process to facilitate provincial dissemination of new treatment approaches when they are approved

Outcomes
- Enable rapid, clinical, operational, and financial assessment of innovative techniques