Clinical Workshop

HDR and electronic brachytherapy for skin cancer

The Christie Education Centre
Manchester, UK, January 21 – 22, 2016

The Christie School of Oncology

BrachyAcademy
Supported by Bieita
Dear Colleagues,

It is an honour and pleasure to invite you to the clinical workshop “HDR and electronic brachytherapy for skin cancer.” This workshop will take place at The Christie Education Centre in Manchester, where the faculty consists of highly-recognised experts with extensive experience in brachytherapy for skin cancer. Experts from Hospital La Fe, Valencia, Spain will also be present to provide their insights and experiences. During the workshop, you will be introduced to all aspects of both electronic and HDR brachytherapy treatment of the skin. Key topics that will be addressed are the clinical and implementation aspects, and hands-on impression of Ultrasound diagnosis, applicator positioning and -construction and planning and delivery method. The centerpiece of the program is a simulation of a patient treatment for both HDR and electronic brachytherapy in the radiotherapy theatre.

This educational workshop is intended for radiation oncologists, dermatologists, medical physicists, Radiographers, dosimetrists, and Mould Room- and Clinical Technologists who want to get an integrated overview of all aspects of electronic and HDR brachytherapy for skin.

We warmly invite you to join this unique workshop and to gain invaluable take-home knowledge to bring the advantages of skin brachytherapy to your center and your patients. Please note that space is limited to 16 participants, so be sure to register early. We are looking forward to meeting you in Manchester!

On behalf of the workshop faculty
Yours sincerely,

Dr. Ernest Allan, MB,FRCR, FRCS
Consultant Clinical Oncologist
The Christie
Manchester, UK

Dr. John Lear, FRCP
Consultant Dermatologist
Manchester Royal Infirmary
Manchester, UK

Intended Participants
- Radiation oncologists
- Dermatologists
- Medical physicists
- Radiographers/Dosimetrists
- Mould Room/Clinical Technologists

Workshop Topics
- Clinical results of skin brachytherapy
- Patient and lesion selection
- HDR brachy for skin
- Electronic brachy for skin
- Applicator selection, assembly and preparation
- Treatment planning
- Team roles, logistics and infrastructure
- Hands-on diagnosis, planning and applicator positioning
- Simulation of patient treatment

Entry Level
Experience in brachytherapy is desirable

Number of Participants
The maximum number of participants is 16

Length
1.5 days (Thursday full day, Friday morning)

Language
The programme will be conducted in English.

For program details and registration please visit www.brachyacademy.com or send an email to: info@brachyacademy.com
Organized by the Department of Brachytherapy of The Christie Education Center in cooperation with Elekta

Introduction

Radiotherapy has been used for the treatment of skin cancers since 1899 and continues to be a highly effective and non-invasive alternative to surgery. The choice for radiotherapy for a particular BCC or SCC depends less on the likelihood of tumor control than on the anticipated cosmetic and functional results. Also patient conditions and preference can lead to choosing radiotherapy over surgery.

Several therapeutic modalities exist to deliver radiotherapy for skin cancer. One of these, brachytherapy involves accurate placement of the radiation source directly onto or into the target tissues using specialized applicators. This enables the most conformal radiation therapy to be delivered to the tumor, while minimizing collateral irradiation of adjacent healthy tissue.

Recent developments in the field of radiotherapy for skin cancer have included the introduction of electronic brachytherapy. Electronic brachytherapy combines the benefits of brachytherapy (accurate placement, conformal delivery and rapid dose fall off) with the reduced shielding requirements and targeted energy of low energy X-rays.

In order to obtain optimal outcome with respect to treatment efficacy, cosmetic outcome and patient Quality of Life it is not only important to use the right treatment modality, but also to use it in the right way. This two-day workshop is intended to help new and experienced users of brachytherapy for skin cancer improve or validate their workflow and procedures, give insight into other sites’ procedures and protocols, get hands on experience with some practical tools and have the opportunity to discuss their experience and problems they face.

Workshop objectives

• Participants will get an integrated overview of the clinical benefits of brachytherapy for skin cancer, the clinical procedure and equipment.
• Participants will obtain comprehensive practical insight into the clinical workflow of both HDR and electronic brachytherapy for skin cancer.
• Participants will get a hands on impression of Ultrasound diagnosis, applicator positioning and the planning and delivery methods of electronic as well as HDR brachytherapy.
• Practical issues, solutions and constraints for each participating center are defined during extensive discussions on the practical aspects of successfully implementing the technique.
21 January 2016, full day
• 10:00 Welcome and introduction
• 10:05 Brachytherapy at The Christie
• 10:15 Participant presentations
• 10:55 Skin cancer overview (dermatologist view)
• 11:15 Origins of Skin Brachytherapy: Past and Present
• 11:30 HDR Skin Brachytherapy - the physics perspective
• 12:00 Lunch
• 13:00 Introduction Esteya
• 13:15 Valencia experience (Valencia and Esteya)
• 13:55 Imaging equipment for skin: Ultrasound, dermoscopy, biopsy
• 14:10 Break
• 14:30 Hands on session 1: Diagnosis, patient and lesion selection - clinical aspects
• 15:20 Break
• 15:40 Applicator selection
• 16:00 Applicator assembly and preparation /Mould room techniques
• 16:20 Hands on session 2: Applicators
• 17:15 Wrap up and questions day 1
• 19:00 Dinner

22 January 2016, ½ day
• 08:45 Treatment Planning and Fractionation
• 09:15 Hands on session 3: Planning selected cases
• 10:15 Break
• 10:35 Tour of The Christie brachytherapy facilities
• 11:10 Treatment set up (in radiotherapy theatre)
• 11:20 Observation of a mock treatment: Freiburg Flap and Esteya
• 11:50 Patient follow up
• 12:10 How to start? Equipment and facilities, multidisciplinary treatment, commissioning, implementation and physics QA
• 12:40 Wrap up and closure
• 13:00 Lunch and departures