

IMPACT

Influencing Models of Practice with Advanced
Competency in Therapeutic Radiation

WELCOME TO OUR SECOND EDITION OF IMPACT!

It has been a busy few months for the CSRTs across the Province and this edition aims to highlight a selection of their achievements.

Firstly however, we would like to welcome our newest member to the Community of Practice (CoP) team, Ms. Joanna Javor. She will be working at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre as a CSRT specializing in palliative care, with a focus on expediting care for palliative patients via the PROP Program. Welcome, Joanna!

We would also like to welcome Kitty Chan, a CSRT at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre who will be joining Laura D'Alimonte as the CSRT CoP co-leads.

Mark Given, the Director of Professional Practice from the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT) starts this newsletter with insight into the Advanced Practice Registered Technology (APRT) Certification, a national initiative and exciting development for Advanced Practice Radiation Therapy.

We continue with our series of spotlighting a CSRT who continues to push the advanced practice envelope. In this edition, we focus on Ms. Lori Holden BSc, MRT(T), APRT(T) from the Odette Cancer Centre. She demonstrates how one is able to acquire knowledge and skills for one position, and transfer them to a different role to suit the growing and changing needs of a department.

Linda Gough reminds us of the importance of our professional responsibilities, especially in the realm of advanced practice. Finally, we finish with "CSRT Academia" - a showcase of accomplishments by our CSRT community of practice group. We hope you enjoy this edition. If you have questions or wish to join our readership, contact us at the below email addresses.

Lori Holden and Darby Erler

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CSRTs at the Sunnybrook
Odette Cancer Centre

LEADING THE WAY:
International Radiographer Advance
Practice Conference 2018
(LTWRAP 2018)

SAVE THE
DATE
Oct 20-21, 2018

... is coming to Toronto! Get your abstracts ready - details coming SOON!

ADVANCED PRACTICE IN RADIATION THERAPY

The Pinnacle of Achievement for MRTs in Canada

On July 7th 2017, the CAMRT formally announced that Advanced Practice Certification for Radiation Therapists is now officially open. Decades of commitment from many different individuals and organizations made this new certification process not only a possibility, but a reality. The Advanced Practice Registered Technologist (Therapy) ("APRT(T)") Certification process provides a standardized means to recognize and certify radiation therapists working to the defined advanced level in Canada.

The certification process assesses a candidate's ability to carry out the role of an advanced practice radiation therapist based on defined competencies from a nationally-validated APRT(T) Competency Profile. The rigour of the process gives value and credibility to the title and it gives significance and benefit for the practitioner, the employer, and the patient.

For the profession, formal certification is important to establish an agreed standard for advanced practice that is recognized across the country. In addition, formal certification is important as it establishes in its own right an agreed standard of advanced practice across the country.

We strongly encourage those interested in current or future APRT(T) certification to reach out and discuss the opportunity at: mgiven@camrt.ca or ksmith@camrt.ca or visit: <http://www.camrt.ca/mrt-profession/advanced-practice/aprtt-certification/eligibility-and-application/>

Mark Given
Director of Professional Practice
Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists

CSRT SPOTLIGHT



Lori Holden BSc, MRT(T), APRT(T)
Odette Cancer Centre

Lori Holden began her career in Radiation Therapy in 1998 at the Hamilton Regional Cancer Centre. A year later, she moved to the Odette Cancer Centre (OCC), where she has been instrumental in the creation and development of unique roles in radiation therapy including the research radiation therapist and palliative radiation therapist. She herself is an active researcher and led two of the first projects examining RTs evaluation of verification images. The positive

result of these studies has enabled an increase in scope of practice with RTs taking on independent evaluation of CBCT images. Based on her academic achievements, Lori was appointed as Assistant Professor in the University of Toronto Department of Radiation Oncology in 2005.

Lori is one of the pioneers in the CSRT project and participated in all phases of development as a Palliative CSRT since its inception in 2004. She has recently expanded her role to Stereotactic Radiosurgery and is the radiotherapy lead of a very successful Gamma Knife program.

The team and Lori recently reached an important milestone and delivered Canada's first frameless image guided brain radiosurgery treatment.

Lori was successful in achieving her Advanced Practice certification, one of three therapists in Canada to carry the APRT(T) designation. She continues to seek out ways the APRT role can expand radiation therapy practice and improve patient outcomes.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to CSRTs Lori Holden of Sunnybrook Odette Cancer Centre and Lilian Doerwald from the Juravinski Cancer Centre who successfully navigated the three phases of the new APRT certification process and received the distinct honour of being 2 of the first of 3 MRTs in Canada to carry the APRT(T) designation after their names.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Practicing medical radiation technology in specialized areas

The College of Medical Radiation Technologists of Ontario (CMRTO) ensures medical radiation technologists (MRTs) are practicing professionally by establishing and enforcing the Standards of Practice that reflect the knowledge, skills and judgment MRTs need in order to safely perform the services and procedures that fall within the scope of practice of the profession. MRTs must adhere to the CMRTO's Standards of Practice in all practice areas, including areas of specialization such as the Clinical Specialist Radiation Therapist.

The CMRTO sets the requirements for an MRT's registration in each of the specialties. MRTs are responsible for ensuring they have the requisite knowledge, skills and judgment to perform procedures safely and effectively in every area of their practice. One way to demonstrate that you have the necessary education and experience is to complete a certification in a specialty area offered by a professional association or other organization. As an adjunct to this, the CAMRT has established the APRT certification, which gives rise to a valid, nationally standardized professional designation.

Linda Gough, MRT(R)
Registrar & CEO
College of Medical Radiation Technologists of Ontario

CSRT ACADEMIA

Peer-Reviewed Manuscripts

D'Alimonte L., Holden L., Turner A., Erler D., Sinclair E., Harnett N., Di Prospero L. Advancing Practice, Improving Care, The Integration of Advanced Practice Radiation Therapy Roles into a Radiotherapy Department: A single institution experience. *JMIRS* 48(2),2017: 118-121.

Kong V., Taylor A., Rosewall T. Adaptive Radiotherapy for Bladder Cancer – A Systematic Review. *Journal of Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences*. In press.

Rozanec N., Chan E., Malam S., Loudon J. The automated patient discharge summary: improving communication at transfers of care after completion of radiotherapy. *Journal of Radiotherapy in Practice* Published online: 04 May 2017, pp. 1-7.

Rozanec N., Smith S., Wells W., Moyo E., Zychla L., Harnett N. Patient satisfaction with the role of a Clinical Specialist Radiation Therapist in palliative care. *Journal of Radiotherapy in Practice*, Online: 09 May 2017, pp. 1-6.

Vapiwala N., Giuliani M., Harnett N. Advancing Our Practice Through the Advanced Practice Radiation Therapist Model: Catching Up with Canada. *IJROBP* 98(3), 2017

Oral Presentations

Blain J. Palliative Radiotherapy for Pain Relief. Interprofessional Seminar Series in Palliative Care, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. January 2017.

Chan K. MR-guided multi-channel vaginal applicator brachytherapy for vaginal cancer. RTi3 Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. March 2017.

D'Alimonte L. The Role of the Clinical Specialist Radiation Therapist in Delivering Person Centred Care Across the Cancer Continuum. RTi3 Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. March 2017.

Erler D. Quantify the Impact of CSRTs: The Creation and Evaluation of Workload Codes. RTi3 Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. March 2017.

Kong V. Assessing the Performance of Deformable Image Registration for Pelvis. RTi3 Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. March 2017.

Kong V. Impact of Interobserver Variability Delineation on Deformable Image Registration for Prostate. RTi3 Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. March 2017.

Lavergne C. Improving Same Day Simulation and Treatment in Radiation Therapy. RTi3 Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. March 2017.

Lee G. Radiation therapy patient experience survey of early-stage breast cancer women. RTi3 Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. March 2017.

Lee G. Planned vs. Delivered Lumpectomy Cavity Dose During Conformal Breast Boost Radiation Therapy, RTi3 Conference, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. March 2017.

Linden K. Journey of the palliative patient. Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists 2017 Annual General Conference (CAMRT/OAMRS). Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. April 2017.

Linden K. The implementation of a CSRT and a rapid access clinic. Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists 2017 Annual General Conference (CAMRT/OAMRS). Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. April 2017.

Poster Presentations

Kong V. Comparison of 3 Image-guided Adaptive Strategies for Bladder Radiotherapy. European Society for Radiotherapy & Oncology (ESTRO) Annual Meeting. Vienna, Austria. May 2017.

Lee G. Patient experience survey of early-stage breast cancer patients undergoing whole breast radiotherapy. CAP Research & Innovation Day, 2017.

Invited Lectures and Presentations

Chan K. MR-guided Brachytherapy for Cervical Cancer. Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists. CAMRT Webinar Speaker. Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. June 2017

D'Alimonte L. and Di Prospero L. Practice Challenges of Combining MRI and Radiation Therapy Treatment. RTi3 Post-Conference Workshop. Toronto, Ontario, Canada. March 2017.

Erler D. & **D'Alimonte L.** "You Ain't "Seen" Nothing Yet". Ontario Association Medical Radiation Sciences Webinar, Ontario, Canada. January 2017.

Erler D. and Campbell M. The Perfect Storm: Combining MRI and Radiation Therapy Treatment. RTi3 Post-Conference Workshop. Toronto, Ontario, Canada. March 2017.

Holden, L. The GK Patient Journey. RT Rounds Odette Cancer Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. March 2017.

Grant Recipient

Congratulations to **Vickie Kong** on being awarded \$24,000 by the 2017 SANOFI grant committee for her project entitled "Image guidance strategies for pelvis and prostate radiotherapy – A comparison based on accumulated delivered dose". Vickie is the first Radiation Therapist to win this award.