



## International Conference on Medical Imaging and Radiotherapy, Malta 2020 The SAFEEUROPE project

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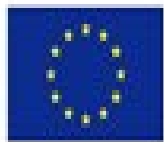
# SAFE Europe

Safe And Free Exchange of  
EU Radiography Professionals  
across Europe

## International Conference on Medical Imaging and Radiotherapy, *Malta 2020*

Dr Sonyia McFadden, Ulster University (UK)

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



(Project coordinator)



IPO PORTO  
Instituto Português de  
Oncologia



Associação Portuguesa  
de Radiologia e  
Radioterapia



L-Università  
ta' Malta



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# Overview and background

- Incidence of cancer increasing
- 52% of cancer cases undergo Radiotherapy.
- Education of radiotherapy professionals (RPs) not regulated at European Union (EU) level,

\* This may hinder mobility of professionals and compromise patient safety.

National training of staff—  
not standardized across  
Europe

Different skills and  
competencies

Need to ensure safe  
practice is maintained with  
movement of professionals  
across Europe

ERASMUS+ funded research, under Sector Skills Alliance.

- Key Action 2 – Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices
- 499,736 Euros funded over 3 year period (Nov 18-Oct 21)
- 7 partners across Europe
- 12 Work packages (WP)

# 7 partners: PI Ulster University, UK

## 3 National professional associations

Associação Portuguesa dos Radioterapeutas (ART), *Portugal*;

Society of Medical Radiographers (SRM), *Malta*;

Towarzystwo Naukowe Technikow Medycznych Radioterapii (TNTMR)  
*Poland*

## 1 European federation

European Federation of Radiographer Societies (EFRS), *Holland*

## 1 other university

University of Malta, *Malta*

## 1 public hospital (IPOP)

Instituto Portugues de Oncologia Porto (IPOP), *Portugal*



# 12 Work packages

- specific to RP's working in the linear accelerator

1. Preparation and management
2. Quality assurance
3. Assessment of the RP competencies developed in education institutions
4. Perception of stakeholders on the competencies required.
5. Assessment of patients' perceptions of requirements of RP's.
6. Investigate the applicability of circular economy.
7. Assessment of the digital skills required by RP's

(relevant aspects to include in RP's education)

8. Assessment of Advanced Practice for RP's
9. Dissemination of results (conferences/meetings)
10. Webinars
11. Submission of research results into European Skills, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations (ESCO)
12. Dissemination of results to stakeholders

# Aim

To identify the educational gaps in the competencies of RPs across Europe and implement educational actions to close these gaps.

- Administration of radiotherapy treatments
- Digital skills of the RPs
- Circular Economy in Radiotherapy
- Advanced roles of the RPs



# Methodology

## Common approach across work packages



Literature review to inform the design

Surveys with stakeholders and/or patients

Interviews with stakeholders and/or patients

Freely available online webinars to inform and educate staff on the skills that are less developed in different countries

# WP 1. Preparation and management



## Organisation of project meetings:

- Initial meeting, 2 steering meetings and 1 final meeting + monthly online



Promote inter-group communication and establish a communication system (shared access)



Scheduled deadlines and construct table of performance indicators

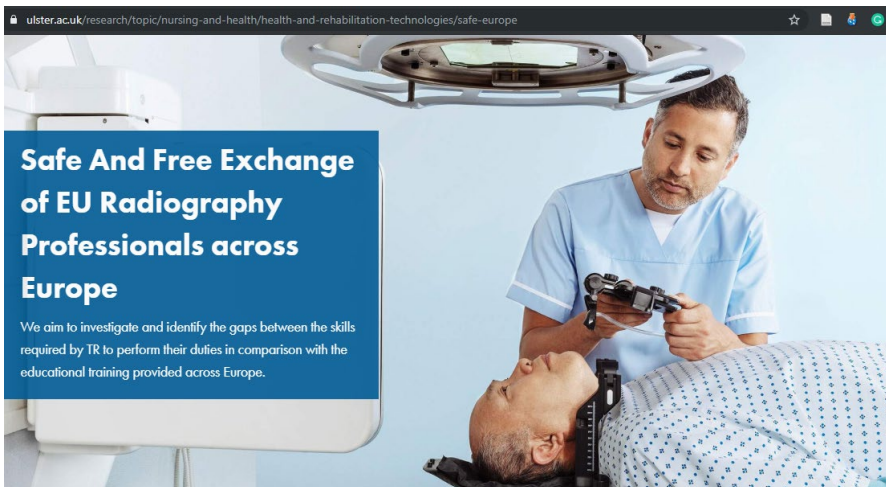


Realistic division of the responsibilities



# WP 1. Preparation and management

Setup website + social media



safe europe ulster university



@safeeuropeproject



@UUSAFEEurope



# Management

## Several dimensions:

- scientific coordination,
- financial management,
- dissemination/exploitation
- quality control

Monthly online meetings via skype

Contract developed across all partners

Monthly timesheets

Intellectual property agreement

Website + Social Media

6 monthly progress reports

# WP 2. Quality assurance

The **internal assessment** of the quality will be ongoing throughout project

Bi-annual reports from each partner to ensure time financial quality control

Mid-term & final project progress report submitted to the European Commission

**NB can be audited at any time up to 2026 !**

# Preliminary results

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radiographyonline.com/article/S1078-8174(17)30124-4/pdf

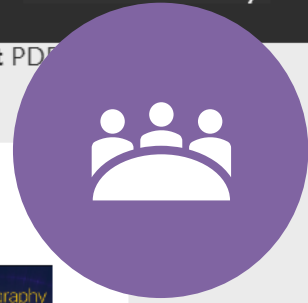
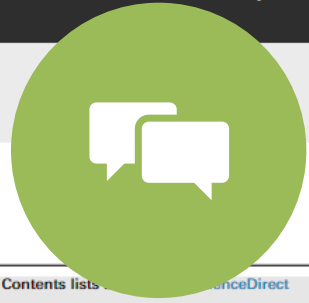
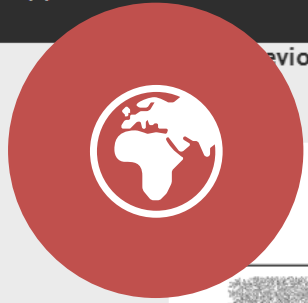
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**Radiography**

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/radi](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/radi)

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radiography

Check for updates

Competencies of therapeutic radiographers working in the linear accelerator across Europe: A systematic search of the literature and thematic analysis

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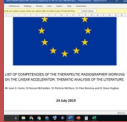
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ARTICLE INFO ABSTRACT

Feedback

Windows taskbar with icons for Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, Firefox, File Explorer, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Word, Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Outlook, and various system utilities. System clock shows 10:56 on 06/02/2020.

# Preliminary results @ end of first year



WP3 – Lit Review: List of competencies on the linear accelerator



WP3 – Questionnaire: Competency across European education institutions



WP7 – Pilot questionnaire: Digital skills

# Conclusions

- ✓ **Competencies that match the European market needs**
- ✓ **Increase employability and knowledge transfer**
- ✓ **Same standard of care, regardless of where they were educated**





# Thank you for listening.

## Questions?

Co-funded by the  
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of the European Union



(Project coordinator)

**EFRS** | EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF  
RADIOGRAPHER SOCIETIES



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