

mean was 5.9. The main criticism of the course was related to time constraints.

Conclusions: The improvement in knowledge following the course and the high level of satisfaction metrics suggest that the gap in educating RTTs in countries without a dedicated bachelors degree may be bridged with intensive, high impact simulation rich education. Improvement and validation of these findings are underway with the second national course.

PO-1134

Using e-Learning to improve RTTs training: the case of a Skills e-Lab for the TrueBeam

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Purpose/Objective: To help Radiation Therapists (RTTs) to acquire, or bring up to date, the essential skills to operate the TrueBeam while, at the same time, reducing the time the facility is used for training purposes. To this end, an e-Learning solution has been developed.

Materials and Methods: A Rapid e-Learning methodology has been followed. This includes involving stakeholders, continuous validation, and the use of existing materials. Decisively, a multidisciplinary team (i.e., experienced RTTs, media producers, and e-Learning specialists) was responsible for the design and development of the solution. We used Articulate as authoring software.

Results: The result is a Skills e-Lab that helps RTTs to learn the basics on how to operate the TrueBeam facility. It is an online training module which includes video demonstrations, learning activities, self-assessments, and a final evaluation. In this way, RTTs can train at their own pace and time before going to the hands-on training.

The design of the e-Lab considers: (a) the competences for RTTs recommended by ESTRO and (b) modern instructional design principles (4C/ID-model). The patient flow, such as loading the patient or matching and position verification, is used to structure the content as a set of steps. Each step:

- Explains why the step is needed, when it has to be done, and how it works.
- Provides interactive *learning activities* to rehearse concepts that were explained in the information part.
- Includes *self-assessments* that help to practice what has been learnt. They can include different type of quizzes such as hotspot (i.e., to identify a part or button of the facility) or multiple-choice questions.
- Lists tips and tricks, including relevant information, documents and references.

On average, it takes around 2 hours to complete the e-Lab. Figure 1 gives an impression. It shows the main screen and the content of one step.

The e-Lab, which is available in Dutch and English, has been evaluated by RTTs (n=10) in The Netherlands and Belgium. Feedback shows that after completion of the e-Lab, most RTTs feel more confident to operate the TrueBeam.

Figure 1: Skills e-Lab: Basics on how to operate a TrueBeam Facility



Conclusions: Using a Rapid e-Learning methodology a Skills e-Lab was developed, which was positively evaluated by the target audience. In the near future, the Skills e-Lab will be tested by RTTs with different levels of expertise, and their feedback will be considered to make an improved version. We plan to include a certificate of completion, and an 'observation list' as part of the final evaluation. This list consists of a set of actions RTTs have to follow in the facility to check whether they master the required skills.

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Extended scope of practice of radiation therapist: role in clinical planning procedures and patient management

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Purpose/Objective: Radiation Therapists (RT's) play a well established role in the clinical part of treatment planning. In the past few years we have observed a significant increase in their academic competence, practical skills and experience. It gives the background to develop the role of Radiation Therapists as a part of Multidisciplinary Teams, enhanced cooperation with physicians and patient management. Extended Scope of Practice involves tasks that are outside current legislation. Our goal is to collect sufficient data to introduce radiotherapy as a specialisation course for electroradiologists. These tasks require a high level of knowledge and clinical experience, accredited further education and ongoing credentialing.

Materials and Methods: In 2013, a division of electroradiologists' responsibilities was put into place according to their competences. Under a pilot project, 18 radiation therapist employed in one of the Radiotherapy Centres were assigned duties dependant on their level of