



International Conference on Modern Radiotherapy

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A. General remarks

B. Main findings

C. The way forward



A. General remarks

A1. Objectives of the Conference :

- Radiation protection of patients VS promotion of new technologies in radiotherapy ;
- Quality of the presentation, of the posters and organisation ;
- No time enough for discussion.

A2. Complex topics presented and discussed with a “largely opened mind”, considering :

- scientific and medical issues on new technologies, on side effects and complications, on radiosensitivity of patients and cell therapy treatment ;
- lessons learned about accidents and preventive actions to mitigate risks;
- safety culture ;
- but also on risk acceptability and information of patients

B. Main findings (1/3)

- B1. No doubt on the generic justification of radiotherapy.
- B2. Benefit but also risks of new technologies : before current use, a clear need for an evaluation system by users (at international level), independent from manufacturers, and for guidance taking into account the different countries conditions.
- B3. Regulators have to clearly define the responsibilities of manufacturers and suppliers on the commissioning of new devices and on the integration of the user's feedback experience. Regulatory and standardisation bodies must have a specific attention for software associated to accelerators.

B. Main findings (2/3)

- B4. Side effects and complications (around 5% of concerned patients) : serious progress are still needed on registration (by medical teams) and on robust analysis and statistics at international level.
- B5. Events/precursors likely to have possible effects on patients : needs to develop notification by radiotherapy centres at national and international level (ROSIS, SAFRON) for analysis and feedback experience.
- B6. Accident is not a fatality : lessons learned from past accidents are well analysed (ICRP, IAEA) and actions to progress, under the responsibility of operators, are well identified, developing :
 - Safety culture and safety tools ;
 - Quality assurance program and Risk analysis.
 - Adequate staffing and training.

B. Main findings (3/3)

- B7. Coordinated research programs are necessary in order to rapidly identify and carry out feasible and simple radiosensitivity test.
- B8. On the basis of best national practices, Regulatory bodies have to provide more efforts to promote actions on adequate regulations, on quality assurance, on risk analysis, on clinical audits, on good clinical practices, ...
- B9. A new challenge : involvement of patients and of their associations on the assessment of the quality and safety of treatments and on risk acceptance and communication ?

C. The way forward

- C1. Technical papers (from speakers and posters) and oral presentations will be available on ASN website (links on IAEA, WHO, UE and professional societies websites) ...CD ?
- C2. ASN and cosponsor organisations will prepare as soon as possible the final findings, and will ensure their diffusion.
- C3. A further conference within 2 years ? on the same topics ? on medical imaging ? on interventional radiology ? on the whole topic of doses to the patients ?
...to be discussed with cosponsor organisations...