

Faculty of Radiologists Specialist Training Programme in Radiation Oncology Curriculum Needs Assessment

Needs assessment (Analysis) is a foundational process for curriculum development and it is considered as a critical stage in the complex process of curriculum design. Needs assessment provides direction for determining the competency standards by which trainees should be assessed, and how a curriculum should be delivered.

Expressed Needs

Information has been collected over the last 2 years from direct contact of the trainees during their daily practice with the curriculum development group.

Felt Needs

National survey of the trainees conducted with direct questions addressing the different needs.

Normative Needs

Members of the curriculum development team have conducted several meetings/focus group meetings with different stakeholders (trainers/local training coordinators/ trainee representatives/ examiners/ regulatory body's representatives such as National Doctors Training and Planning NDTP/ allied health professionals). The curriculum development team has also reviewed different related documents such as the *National Cancer Strategy 2017-2026*, published by the Department of Health in 2017; the *Radiation Oncology Work Force Plan*, published by the NDTP in 2017; and the *Development of Radiation Oncology Services in Ireland* document, published in 2003.

Legislative Needs

At the national level, the current regulations and standards of the Medical Council Ireland and the National Doctors Training and Planning (NDTP) have been considered and integrated in this current version. The HSE NCHD contract has also been reviewed.



At the European level, the European regulations such as the *European Society of Therapeutic Radiation Oncology (ESTRO) Core Curriculum for Radiation Oncologists Recommendations, 4th Edition* (April 2019) has been reviewed and all recommendations has been considered in this version.

Comparative Needs

In this revised version of the curriculum, different standards in both North America and Australia have been considered.

