

# 1/B19 SPECIFICATION FOR ADVANCED VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN RADIATION ONCOLOGY

## 1.0 PREAMBLE

This specification outlines the requirements for Radiation Oncology registrar training. It is based on the Faculty of Radiation Oncology of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (FRORANZCR) and its examination by-laws and explanatory notes, the faculty's curriculum, and procedures manual for training programmes. This specification includes both the theoretical and clinical components of Radiation Oncology Training.

In this specification, the term 'registrar' means registrar in training as defined in Section 3.1 Registrar Eligibility.

Other terms are defined in the CTA Head Agreement and/or Service Agreement.

## 2.0 DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE

The programme is a five year (or part time equivalent) clinically based training programme. The training programme leads to the achievement of: a detailed knowledge of the epidemiology, aetiology, pathology and natural history of human neoplasms; considerable knowledge, experience, technical expertise and skill in the clinical diagnosis of neoplastic disease; application of all ancillary diagnostic aids in the diagnosis of cancer; treatment modalities such as radiation, use of cytotoxic agents and the role of surgery; pain management and the management of the cancer patient as a whole person.

The programme should include preparation for health leadership and management. It is likely to include effective service delivery and resource management, the management and policy environment in the New Zealand health system (including some understanding of the concept of health economics), models of health service delivery, and some exploration of how multidisciplinary teams function.

Learning is facilitated through access to the clinical environment and the creation of a planned and managed learning environment achieved through interactions between the registrar and patients, interactions with other health professionals in a variety of clinical settings, attendance at formal teaching seminars, meetings, discussions, use of library facilities, direct supervision of the clinical service provided, and support and guidance to ensure that learning occurs and progress towards qualification is made.

Training may be part-time, and periods of extended leave are considered on case by case basis.

## 2.1 LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Training occurs in an approved post in a facility accredited by the RANZCR. Registrars shall be released from service to attend theoretical training, and receive supervision and training, and are expected to keep a log book which should be examined by the Supervisor of Training at a minimum of three monthly intervals.

### 2.2.1 Clinical Supervision

#### ***General Requirements***

Registrars' rotations should be selected to ensure a full range of relevant experience. The first year is to be spent in approved clinical work in a hospital post, with four further years spent in practical training in radiation oncology.

Placements are to be planned and co-ordinated by Supervisors of Training, in consultation with the registrar, to meet the requirements of the FRORANZCR and should include rotations/transfers to other locations and rotations with other specialties. Registrars are to be allocated to clinical placements which ensure an appropriate breadth of clinical experience within the registrar's expertise, as well as exposure to a range of different supervisors.

#### ***Specific Requirements***

##### Prerequisite Year

An initial period in approved clinical work where general clinical experience is sought to consolidate basic medical knowledge and skill. This experience may be obtained during the 2nd Year House Surgeon year and be retrospectively credited. The programme is approved by the Chair of the Education Board of the FRORANZCR.

The following conditions shall apply:

- Not more than three months of the total period may be spent in any one of the disciplines of anaesthesia, dermatology, general practice, psychiatry, radiology or radiotherapy.
- Not more than three months may be spent in either medical oncology or clinical haematology.
- The first year may thus include up to four of the disciplines mentioned in (a) and (b) above, provided that not more than three months is spent in any one.
- Otherwise general clinical experience is sought.

### Years One to Five

A period of practical clinical experience in Radiation Oncology, of which up to six months of full-time work (or equivalent part-time work) may be spent in total in clinical haematology, medical oncology, or palliative care provided that such posts are accredited by the RANZCR.

#### **2.1.2 Formal Teaching Programme**

A formal teaching programme, delivered by appropriately skilled and experienced staff, is provided. This should average four hours a week for 30 weeks of the year throughout the training programme, and should meet the curriculum requirements of the RANZCR.

### Years One and Two

Prior to sitting the Part 1 examination in Year 2, the programme should provide instruction in anatomy, biology of cancer, and clinical radiation biology. It should also include specific preparation for the Part 1 examination.

### Years Three and Four

The programme should allow the registrars to develop a comprehensive understanding of all tumour types, their management, and the complex interaction between radiation oncology and other specialties. It should include preparation for the Part II examination in Year 5.

### Year Five

The programme should include the opportunity to further examine theoretical and clinical aspects of oncology, and final preparation for the Part II examination. It is likely to include effective service delivery and resource management, teaching of relevant research skills and methods, and research supervision.

#### **2.1.3 Access to Resources**

Access is provided to:

- The approved theoretical programme.
- Quality assurance programmes.
- Adequate library facilities with current journals and texts appropriate to Radiation Oncology.
- Clinical meetings, seminars, tutorials, and other professional forums.
- A necessary variety of clinical material for training.
- Adequate personal radiation oncology experience for the registrar.
- All documented treatment protocols in the department.
- Clinical trial protocols the department is involved with.

## 2.2 SUPERVISION

Supervision and assessment of registrars is necessary to ensure quality of training, general progress, suitability to continue training, and suitability to sit the Part I and Part II examinations.

### 2.2.1 Clinical Supervision

Sufficient supervisors who are radiation oncologists will be provided and will:

- Supervise not more than two registrars at any one time.
- Supervise clinical work, including observation of patient examinations.
- Provide guidance on the development of attitudes, knowledge, and skill objectives.

During the time registrars are on duty or on call, there must be a clear line of responsibility from patient to the registrar to a designated consultant radiation oncologist.

### 2.2.2 Educational Supervision

Educational supervision may be carried out as part of clinical supervision. The supervisor will:

- Ensure access to the theoretical components of the programme.
- Approve the outline of the theoretical programme.
- Ensure registrars receive assistance with their learning skills, including how to learn from clinical experience, use supervision time effectively, and direct their own learning.
- Provide 'coaching' to registrars, as necessary, in their preparation for examinations.
- Ensure registrars apply principles of cultural appropriateness to the practice of radiation oncology.

## 2.3 PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATION

*A FRORANZCR approved Supervisor of Training will be provided at each training centre who will:*

- Plan and coordinate educational activities and practical placements to ensure that all College requirements are met. There will be a ratio of no less than one specialist to one registrar.
- Facilitate interaction between local activities and the College, Medical School(s) and other locations.
- Collaborate with registrars to prepare individual training programmes.
- Oversee placements and the allocation of supervisors.

- Monitor the clinical and academic progress of registrars, and evaluate their performance at six monthly intervals.
- Ensure the continued compliance of the programme with College requirements.
- Ensure supervisors have training and support to meet FRORANZCR requirements.
- Monitor all approved posts and supervisors to ensure these provide the required training.

## 2.4 EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Prerequisite Year	Completion of at least one year's clinical experience in approved areas (see 2.1.1.) or exemption is given by the Education Board.
Years 1-2	<p>Satisfactory completion of Radiation Oncology Part I examination in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anatomy</li> <li>• Radiotherapeutic physics</li> <li>• Cell and radiation biology.</li> </ul> <p>The examination is almost always sat in either February or August of Year 2, but may be sat at an earlier time.</p>
<i>Following completion of the above, the Registrar gains Post Part 1 status</i>	
Years 2-4	<p>Successful achievement of written and clinical examinations in Radiation Oncology Part II:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General oncology</li> <li>• Radiation oncology</li> <li>• Tumour pathology</li> </ul> <p>and a statistical assignment in the planning and interpretation of clinical trials.</p>
Year 5	Completion of at least three years approved clinical experience following Part I (see 2.1.1) in a number of locations.

### 2.4.1 Long Term Outcome

Fellowship of the Faculty of Radiation Oncologists of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists is awarded.

### **3.0 ELIGIBILITY**

#### **3.1 REGISTRAR ELIGIBILITY**

Registrars must:

- Be accepted by the FRORANZCR into the training programme; and
- Be a graduate in Medicine and Surgery of a Medical School recognised by the Medical Council of New Zealand; and
- Have general registration as a medical practitioner from the Medical Council of New Zealand.
- Have completed a pre-requisite year in an approved hospital as a Second Year House Surgeon (see Section 2.1.1)

Medical graduates who do not meet the above criteria may be considered on a case by case basis.

#### **3.2 PROVIDER ELIGIBILITY**

Training occurs in an approved post in a facility accredited by the FRORANZCR.

### **4.0 LOCATION AND SETTING**

Any subcontract of the theoretical teaching programme and/or some of the approved posts can only occur with our prior written consent (see Part 9 of the CTA Head Agreement). When approved posts are subcontracted to other providers to ensure appropriate rotation scheme, the posts must be approved by the FRORANZCR and there must be sufficient consultant radiation oncologists to provide supervision.

### **5.0 ASSOCIATED LINKAGES**

You will have established linkages with:

- FRORANZCR and other radiation oncology training programmes.
- The provider of the relevant theoretical programme.
- Patient Advocates for Code of Health and Disability Services, Consumer Rights and Privacy Issues.

## 6.0 PURCHASE UNIT

A registrar in a FRORANZCR approved training post for radiation oncology training.

The Purchase Units are as follows:

- Pre Part 1
- Post Part 1

(Please refer to Section 2.4 – Expected Outcomes, for classification of the above).

Part-time registrars who are funded under this contract will be funded on a pro rata training unit basis.

## 7.0 QUALITY STANDARDS: PROGRAMME SPECIFIC

*This section should be read in conjunction with Schedule 1 Part 3 of the CTA Head Agreement, which specifies **generic** quality standards for all programmes provided under the contract.*

Each training provider will demonstrate their commitment to training by:

- Rotating registrars regularly to enable them to obtain the specific experience required by the programme.
- Providing formal education activities to meet the theoretical components of the programme (e.g. anatomy, radiotherapeutic physics, cell and radiation biology, tumour pathology and radiation oncology) through lectures, discussions and seminars within the hospital, or support registrars to attend these off site, and support registrars to attend relevant external conferences and block courses.

Clinical supervision will be provided to a standard that ensures:

- Supervision and direct help by an appropriately qualified consultant is available at all times to all registrars.

Clinical programmes will be administered and organised by the Supervisor of Training to ensure:

- They are integrated into the theoretical programme. This programme should include preparation and coaching for examinations.
- Records of each registrar's clinical experience and attendance at courses, seminars and lectures are available on request.
- Registrars' logbooks are available for inspection by the Accreditation Chair of the Education Board.

## **8.0 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: PROGRAMME SPECIFIC**

*This section should be read in conjunction with Schedule 1 Part 1 of the CTA Head Agreement, which specifies **generic** reporting requirements for all programmes provided under the contract.*

### **8.1 PROGRESS REPORTING**

Section 2.4 of the specification details the expected outcomes of the Training programme.

### **8.2 QUALITY REPORTING**

Reports as described in Schedule 1 Part 1 of the CTA Head Agreement require a summary of the programme. Schedule 1 Part 3 of the CTA Head Agreement requires that you have a quality plan in place for the ongoing monitoring of the training provided. The summary should refer specifically to the outcomes of this internal quality management and make specific reference to the programme specific quality standards in Section 7.0 above.

The Supervisor of Training is to prepare a Programme plan specifying:

- The scope of training to be provided.
- The number and levels of registrars that can be adequately trained.
- Links with the College, Medical Schools and other training locations, including exchange and rotation programmes.
- The consultants and other clinical personnel required for formal education and clinical supervision.
- Library, physical, and other resources required for training.