



**Clinical
Oncology**

The Royal College of Radiologists

**The Royal College of Radiologists
RCR-Cyclotron Trust Visiting Fellowships 2013/14 (Clinical Oncology)**

POST-VISIT REPORT

1. Name of Visiting Fellow	Dr Stephen Kennedy	
2. Name of joint Visiting Fellow (if applicable)		
3. Institution(s) of Visiting Fellow(s)	The Christie Hospital Manchester	
4. Name of Host(s)	Prof Anita Mahajan, Radiation Oncology	
5. Institution(s) of host(s)	MD Anderson, University of Texas, Houston	
6. Expenses claimed	£ 1867.00	
7. Visit Dates (ACTUAL)	a. Start Date 31/3/2014	b. End Date 11/04/2014
8. 2nd visit dates (if applicable)	a. Start date	b. End Date
9. Aims of the visit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To see first-hand the planning and delivery of proton radiotherapy. To understand the indications for proton radiotherapy, the benefits and drawbacks. Understand the practicalities and challenges. Discuss with professional who have first-hand experience the challenges in delivering proton radiotherapy and benefit from their experience.• To understand the technical aspects of proton radiotherapy. i.e how it works, the equipment etc.• To spend time with dosimetrists planning proton radiotherapy• To observe clinicians in clinic selecting patients for proton radiotherapy• To see proton radiotherapy be delivered to patients. i.e the daily set up and verification• To experience Neuro and Paediatric Oncology at another institution• To compare US vs UK healthcare• To develop useful contacts amongst professionals	

10. Activities undertaken

All of above undertaken

- Planning and delivery of proton radiotherapy.
- Discuss with professional who have first-hand experience the challenges in delivering proton radiotherapy and benefit from their experience.
- Learnt about the technical aspects of proton radiotherapy. i.e how it works, the equipment etc, by viewing the equipment and discussing it with clinicians, physicists, dosimetrists, engineers and radiographers
- Spent time with dosimetrists planning proton radiotherapy
- Observed clinicians selecting patients for proton radiotherapy
- Observed proton radiotherapy being delivered to patients. i.e. the daily set up and verification

11. Benefits of the visit (short term)

- Increased my knowledge and practical knowledge of proton therapy considerably
- Awareness of what proton radiotherapy can achieve. i.e considerable reduction in dose to normal tissues. E.g craniospinal irradiation

12. Envisaged benefits of the visit (longer term)

- Be able to make appropriate referrals for proton radiotherapy in the future (my future sub-speciality of Neuro-Oncology)
- Be able to explain to patients and their carers proton radiotherapy from personal experience of seeing it delivered.
- Understand also the limitations of proton radiotherapy
- Make balanced decisions about proton radiotherapy and comparing to photon radiotherapy

13. Please outline any problems you encountered before, during or after your visit

- Very thorough occupational health process prior to visit. I wasn't prepared for this and it took a lot of time and effort to organise. A lot of bureaucracy to contend with.
- The first few days the host institution did not quite understand the purpose of my visit. After discussion, they were very helpful at accommodating with my requirements and went out there way to be helpful.

14. When do you intend to submit an article for the RCR Newsletter?

1 month

15. Any additional comments**Signed:** S R Kennedy **Date:** 24/04/2014**Report approved by:** Clinical Oncology Professional Support and Standards Board**Date** 15 May 2014