

**UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES**  
**EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS**  
**U.E.M.S.**

**European Training Charter for Medical Specialists, UEMS 1995**

---

**RADIOTHERAPY**

**Chapter 6, CHARTER on TRAINING of MEDICAL  
SPECIALISTS in the EU**

**REQUIREMENTS for the SPECIALTY RADIOTHERAPY**

Draft of the UEMS Specialist Section RADIOTHERAPY, updated September 2002.

Requirements for radiotherapy (the use of ionizing rays in the treatment of patients either alone or as part of a broader specialty in Oncology)

Article 1.

**CENTRAL MONITORING AUTHORITY for RADIOTHERAPY at EU LEVEL**

1.1. The radiotherapy section of the UEMS will be the monitoring authority for radiotherapy (radiation oncology) in the EU.

1.2. General guidelines and standards for recognition of institutions and teachers in radiotherapy (radiation oncology) will be laid down and approved by the UEMS section.

1.3. Training should take place in an institute or group of institutions which together offer the trainee practice in all aspects of the specialty including a sufficient number and variety of consultations and practical procedures.

The trainee should be trained to be able to take responsibility for the organisation of the necessary diagnostic procedures, the treatment and the follow up of patients who are candidates for radiotherapy treatment..

1.4. Allied specialists (e.g. pathology, surgery, internal medicine, dermatology, haematology etc.) should be included in the training programme for radiotherapy (radiation oncology) to provide the trainee with the opportunity of developing his/her skills in the multidisciplinary approach to cancer patients.

1.5. To assure quality of training, the training institutions should have an internal systems of medical audit and quality assurance including reporting of accidents in accordance with a written agreed procedure (Quality assurance in the training department should be based on the Report on Quality Assurance in Radiotherapy, prepared and endorsed by the representatives of national scientific societies of radiotherapy and medical physics 1994-1995).

1.6. The system of manpower planning in radiotherapy (radiation oncology) should be monitored in each country by the national authority.

Article 2

**GENERAL ASPECTS of TRAINING in RADIOTHERAPY (RADIATION ONCOLOGY)**

2.1. It is desirable that the trainee after basic medical graduation has some clinical training in related areas.

2.2. Access and selection of trainees for radiotherapy (radiation oncology) should be done openly in each country according to nationally agreed rules .

2.3. The minimum duration of the training in radiotherapy should be 5 years .Of this a minimum of 3 years should be spent on training in the use of ionizing rays for the treatment of patients. In addition there should exist an option to spent additional time in related areas.

2.4. A radiotherapy (radiation oncology) log-book will be implemented in each country in accordance with national rules. The different stages of training and the activities of the trainees must be recorded in the log-books.

2.5. The training periods in radiotherapy (radiation oncology) could be done in each country where radiotherapy either alone or as part of a broader specialty in oncology is recognized.

2.6. The training programme should be based on the current European Core Curriculum endorsed by the national scientific societies (1988). (final revision of redraft 2002)

#### Article 3

##### **REQUIREMENTS for INSTITUTIONS**

- 3.1. Recognition of training institutions in radiotherapy (radiation oncology) will be regularly renewed by the European Board on the basis of proposals from the national colleges/boards responsible for training in individual countries and taking into account the requirements laid down in art. 3.2.
- 3.2. The training institute or a group of institutes (parts of the full training can be provided in different collaborating institutes) should have a sufficient patient mix to offer the trainee the opportunity to learn to take full responsibility for the treatment and follow up of patients treated with ionizing rays.
- 3.3. The infrastructure and organization of the institute or group of institutions should be based on the Report on Quality Assurance in Radiotherapy (1994-1995).
- 3.4. The training institute or group of institutes should strive to provide a state of the art comprehensive training programme based on the current agreed European Core Curriculum for Radiotherapy (radiation oncology).
- 3.5. A staff of at least 3 nationally accredited radiation oncologists should be practicing in a training institute.
- 3.6. Although different resources will be available in each country, training institutes should access to megavolt apparatus including linear accelerators, simulators, treatment planning systems, and brachytherapy. Trainees should have convenient access to current international literature.

#### Article 4

##### **REQUIREMENTS for TEACHERS**

- 4.1. The head of each training programme should have been practicing for at least 5 years after specialist qualification before appointment. Other teachers in the staff should have held specialist accreditation for at least 3 years. The teachers should be practicing radiation oncology as a main part of their daily work.
- 4.2. The chief of training should work out a training programme (including time for self study and scientific work) for each trainee in accordance with the core curriculum which also complies with national rules and EU directives and considers the UEMS Radiotherapy Board recommendations.
- 4.3. The ratio between the number of qualified specialists in the training staff and the number of trainees should provide a close personal monitoring of the trainee during his/her training and ensure adequate exposure of the trainee to the training.

#### Article 5

##### **REQUIREMENTS for TRAINEES**

- 5.1. The trainee is responsible for developing his/her experience in the management and follow up of patients receiving radiotherapy..
- 5.2. The trainee should have sufficient linguistic ability to communicate with patients, to study the international literature and to communicate with European colleagues.
- 5.3. The trainee should be responsible for keeping his/her personal log-book satisfactorily.

#