



Clinical
Radiology

The Royal College of Radiologists

Radiology training 2016–2026: a vision and a solution

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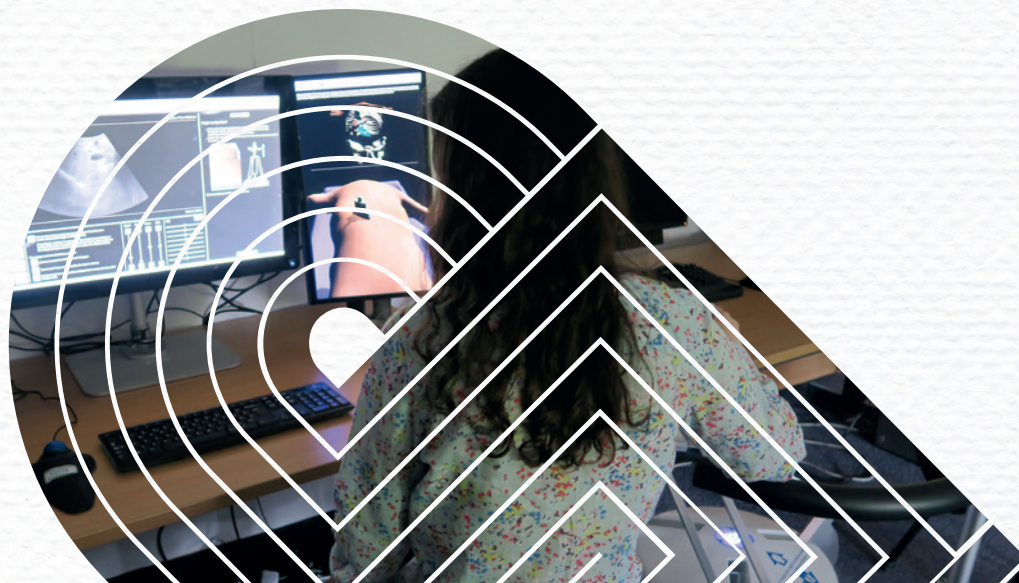


Our vision

- Better patient care: making the most of advances in imaging technology.
- Continuing high standards of training in radiology.
- Build the UK radiologist workforce to a size close to that of mainland Europe: at least eight whole-time clinical radiologists per 100,000 population.
- Capacity to train all the brightest and best – we turn away too many good people.

The crisis in radiology – too few radiologists

- We have just 4.8 radiologists per 100,000 population in the UK.
- A step change in diagnostic capacity is demanded by the English Cancer Strategy.
- Radiology training schemes are too stretched to meet the demand.
- The growing demand is for complex image interpretation where only radiologists' skills can meet the need.
- Greater use of costly outsourcing isn't the answer – it draws on the same limited pool of radiologists as the NHS.
- Recruiting from overseas helps, but getting into the UK, especially for non-EU doctors, can be difficult, expensive and slow.





The solution

Radiology and the RCR have been here before: in 2002–2005 with the Department of Health, we created the Radiology Integrated Training Initiative (R-ITI) and three radiology academies.

Those training schemes with academies significantly increased throughput using blended training in an academy and the clinical setting and state of the art e-learning (R-ITI).

The 2016 model will draw on the best of the radiology academy/R-ITI experience. It will:

- Enhance training through:
 - Blended learning
 - Enriched e-learning
 - Tutorials
 - Webinars
 - Online lectures
 - Experiential learning
 - Simulation.
- Enable the required rapid increase in radiologist training numbers
- Facilitate multiprofessional education and training
- Support a networked model of service delivery.

Realising the vision

Learning and e-learning

- Enhance R-ITI to support current/emerging models of learning.
- Join R-ITI with other digital resources to offer a broad, rounded learning experience.
- Extend learning resources to cover molecular imaging and interventional work.
- Make appropriate use of simulation in training and ensure it is linked to the curriculum.
- Take on the best from new learning methods such as the flipped classroom.

Academies

- Take the best features from ten years' experience at the academies, including structured teaching, e-learning and dedicated teaching spaces.
- Develop simulation suites to support interventional radiology training.
- Explore greater multiprofessional learning using academy resources.
- Establish academies in all parts of the UK to raise the game significantly in radiology training.
- Support academies (existing and new) to link with their surrounding hospitals, training schemes and reporting networks.

Networked reporting

- Use academy resources to create networked reporting centres based on the model the RCR developed in 2014.
- This would support training in, as well as reporting of, emergency studies and large-scale interpretative work such as cancer imaging.
- This would also improve access to specialist imaging advice and help deliver resilient imaging services across the UK.



What the RCR will do to realise the vision

Work with Health Education England (HEE), NHS England and the devolved nation bodies to develop the vision and its implementation.

Work closely with the East Midlands Radiology Consortium (EMRAD) and other network initiatives to share learning.

Work with radiographers and medical physicists to explore multidisciplinary training options.

Continue to review and update R-ITI and link with/develop other e-learning resources.

Work with stakeholders, across the UK to refine the academy model; develop and deliver it.

What we ask others to do

HEE – support and enable these developments and, vitally, create the training places on a continuing and growing scale as the solution comes on stream.

HEE – fund the review and update e-learning resources.

NHS England – support and encourage networked solutions. Commit the funding that is necessary to achieve and maintain this.

The same to happen through the relevant bodies in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

All agencies to work productively with the RCR, training schemes and others to realise the vision and commit to it long term.



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