



The Royal College Of Radiologists

PRESS STATEMENT

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The Royal College of Radiologists needs YOU!

The Royal College of Radiologists wants to ensure that the voices of patients and lay people from across the full length and breadth of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are heard to improve the UK's cancer and radiology services. Patients and carers from all ethnic and social backgrounds who have experience of radiotherapy, chemotherapy, and radiology services are invited to apply to join the Royal College's patients' liaison groups (PLGs).

The College is keen to ensure that patients' liaison groups truly reflect the spectrum of patients who use the services of radiologists and oncologists. We need people from all walks of life to feed back to us their experience of radiology and oncology services.

Patient liaison groups have undertaken a wide range of invaluable college projects including the following:

- Production of advisory booklets targeted at professional in cancer and radiology departments to improve services for patients
- Production of patient information leaflets on a wide range of radiological procedures
- Contributions to different studies and reports on topics ranging from cancer treatment and fertility through to safety in radiotherapy
- Contributions to the college patient information website www.goingfora.com
- Participating in a wide range of college functions and roles – including Education and Accreditation

Dr Gill Markham, Dean of the College's Faculty of Radiology, said, "Our Patient Liaison Groups are a vital part of the work of the College, and the more the medical professions can listen to all service users, the more effective they will be at responding to their needs. We want to increase the diversity of patient-representation groups and therefore call on patients to get involved."

Sol Mead, Chair of the College Clinical Oncology Patient Liaison Group said, "So many of us have an experience of cancer, either as a patient, relative or carer, and that experience can be put to excellent use in a Patient Liaison Group. Involvement in a PLG can be a very rewarding activity, and it's a genuine opportunity to have a say in decisions that will affect the diagnosis and treatment of cancer patients across the UK".

The Royal College has two patient liaison groups:

- **The Clinical Oncology Group** deals with radiotherapy, chemotherapy and other non-surgical cancer treatments. Closing date for applications: **Monday 7 April 2008**
- **The Clinical Radiology Group** deals mainly with radiology used for diagnosing medical conditions (i.e. x-rays, MRI, CT scans). Closing date for applications: **Monday 7 April 2008**

Patient liaison group members will be provided with full travel expenses for involvement in three or four daytime meetings in London over the course of the year.

Notes to Editors

1. For further information, please contact the Royal College of Radiologists' Communications Officer on 020 7299 1138, or dan_garbutt@rcr.ac.uk
2. The Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) has approximately 7,500 members and Fellows worldwide representing the disciplines of clinical oncology and clinical radiology. All members and Fellows of the College are registered medical or dental practitioners.