



# 2025 Virtual Oncology careers day

Be the difference. Choose Oncology

Saturday 26 April 2025  
9.00am–3.00pm

Chaired by Dr Allison Stillie  
Chair, Clinical Oncology Undergraduate Committee



The Royal College of Radiologists

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## 01

## Programme

Time	Session	Speakers
9.00am-9.10am	Welcome	Dr Alison Stillie
9.10am-9.25am	Icebreaker Quiz - Slido.com 2107999	
9.25am-10.15am	Clinical Oncology vs Medical Oncology friendly debate	Dr Neha Chopra (MO) and Dr Gerard Walls (CO)
10.15am-10.30am	BREAK	
10.30am-11.15am	<b>Session 1 - Workshops</b>	
	Multidisciplinary Team Meeting (MDT)	Dr Stuart Walter Dr Amy Cooper
	Academic	Dr Taha Lodhi Dr Holly Egan
	Treatment planning	Dr Mandip Khaira Dr Jo Ann Wong
	BREAK	
11.30am-12.15pm	<b>Session 2 - Workshops</b>	
	Multidisciplinary Team Meeting (MDT)	Dr Stuart Walter Dr Amy Cooper
	Academic	Dr Taha Lodhi Dr Holly Egan
	Treatment planning	Dr Mandip Khaira Dr Jo Ann Wong
	LUNCH BREAK	
1.15pm-2.00pm	<b>Session 3 - Workshops</b>	
	<b>Medical students</b> - Optimising Applications for Specialty Training	Dr Vishnu Pillai
	<b>Resident doctors/doctors in training</b> - Optimising Applications for Specialty Training	Dr David Fackrell
2.00pm-2.15pm	British Oncology Network for Undergraduate Societies (BONUS)	Dr Adit Bassi - BONUS Clinical Oncology Chair 2024/25
2.15pm-2.30pm	Awards, bursaries and prizes	Dr Louise Hanna - Clinical Oncology Medical Director Education and Training (MDET)
2.30pm-3.00pm	Q&A	
3.00pm	Close	

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# 02 Workshops

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## Multidisciplinary team meeting workshop

**Chaired by Dr Stuart Walter and Dr Amy Cooper**

**Joined by: Dr Elizabeth Shortis (Internal Medicine trainee), Dr Michelle Jaschke (Oncology Clinical Fellow) and Dr Grace Ball (Internal Medicine trainee)**

A multidisciplinary team is a group of healthcare professionals with expert knowledge in the management of cancer. They attend a regular multidisciplinary team meetings (MDTs) to discuss the management of patients with a new, recurrent, or progressive diagnosis of cancer.

The purpose of this workshop is to simulate a realistic MDT and enable the attendees to witness the complex interplay of different members of the team involved throughout the patient journey. Though normally an MDT will be tumour-site specific, such as breast, in this case it will span a variety of Oncology sites to give an overview of the types of patients treated under our care.

# 02

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## Academic workshop

**Chaired by Dr Taha Lodhi and Dr Holly Egan**

This workshop will cover academic opportunities available during oncology training, an introduction to academia in undergraduate medical education, and an overview of a career in academic oncology.

# 02

## Treatment planning (contouring) workshop

**Chaired by Dr Mandip Khaira and Dr Jo Ann Wong**

This workshop will focus on a clinical case involving the lower gastrointestinal area, specifically discussing the indications for rectal radiotherapy. Participants will be given an opportunity to practice the contouring process for the rectum (Gross Tumor), emphasising in the contouring of elective volumes and the importance of organs at risk (OAR). Additionally, the session will cover the treatment plan and dose distribution.

### Lower GI Case - Low Rectal Cancer

#### Clinical case description

A 60-year-old male with a biopsy confirmed low rectal adenocarcinoma with a mesorectal node. There is no evidence of extra-mural vascular invasion (EMVI) and the circumferential resection margin (CRM) is not compromised.

**MRI pelvis:**

A hemi-circumferential low rectal tumour, between 3 o'clock and 9 o'clock, measures 5cm craniocaudally and extends to the anorectal junction. There is evidence of early extension through the muscularis propria (T3a). A mesorectal node is seen at 4 o'clock at the level of the tumour. The remaining nodes have benign characteristics.

**CT thorax, abdomen and pelvis:**

- No evidence of metastatic disease
- The predicted radiological staging is T3a N1 V0 M0.

**Treatment**

The patient is to be treated with pre-operative short course radiotherapy 25Gy in fractions over 5 days.

**Contouring instructions:**

This case contains a planning CT with intravenous contrast (3 mm axial slice thickness) and diagnostic MRI images (T2 axial whole pelvis images = 6mm slice thickness).

Please contour the following structures on the CT scan, using the web contouring tool and MRI images:

- GTVp ( Gross Tumour Volume, primary) - the rectal cancer (can include entire lumen)
- GTVn ( Gross tumour volume, node) - the lymph node containing cancer
- The Bladder
- Both femoral heads.

# 03

## Awards, bursaries and prizes

### Undergraduate Oncology Society of the Year

A prize of £200 to recognise and reward undergraduate oncology societies that have been active during the preceding year. Emphasis will be given to societies that have a plan for sustainability and those that have been innovative in their activities.

### Education Innovation and Excellence Prize (EIEA)

A prize of £250 to recognise and reward innovation and excellence in undergraduate oncology education. This prize is intended to reward medical students, radiology trainees or consultants that have developed and implemented innovative projects in the field of undergraduate education.

### Clinical Oncology Undergraduate Elective Bursaries

A prize of at least £300 each will be awarded to five successful undergraduate elective submissions, to support an elective period of study in oncology. Electives may be undertaken in the UK or abroad.

### Clinical Oncology Undergraduate Essay Prize

A prize of £200 for an essay either on a topic relevant to oncology or describing personal experience of working in a hospital oncology department during an elective period or vacation.

### Clinical Oncology Undergraduate Research Prize

A prize of £400 for personal research on an oncology topic.

### Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships (SURF)

The RCR Summer Undergraduate Fellowships (SURF) in Clinical Oncology provide medical students with a unique opportunity to undertake a research project in the field of academic clinical oncology during their early years of study.

These prestigious awards are an excellent opportunity for medical students to bolster their CV while gaining an insight into the field of clinical oncology and the academic opportunities it provides. You'll also gain mentorship from senior academics and clinicians. The recipients will hold the title: RCR Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow in Clinical Oncology.

Full details for how to apply for the awards for training education and exams and research re published on the RCR website.

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# 04

## Engagement activities

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### RadReach

The RadReach mentoring scheme aims to transform training at an elemental level and offer continued support for final year medical students and/or foundation scheme doctors from a widening participation background.

All mentors and mentees will be paired through a matching process via the mentoring platform. Once matched, the commitment for mentors and mentees will be for one year. We suggest you have 6 - 8 one-hour meetings over this period. Our Mentoring Team will check in with mentor and mentees throughout the year to offer support and answer queries.

Read our editorial piece discussing equity of opportunity in radiology and oncology.

### Membership of the Clinical Oncology Undergraduate Committee

The clinical oncology undergraduate committee annually invites two medical students to join its membership to help inform and shape its work. Joining the committee presents a significant opportunity to be involved in and to help set the strategic activities the RCR undertakes to expand the awareness of oncology as a discipline and career in UK medical schools.



# 05

## Undergraduate resources

### Undergraduate non-surgical oncology curriculum 2020

The clinical oncology undergraduate committee together with medical oncology colleagues, updated the undergraduate non-surgical oncology curriculum to bring it in line with the GMC's 'Outcomes for Graduates 2018' and the upcoming Medical Licensing Assessment (MLA): UK medical students graduating in the academic year 2024-25 and later will need to pass the MLA before joining the medical register.

The updated curriculum illustrates how the generic outcomes described in the Outcomes for graduates can be achieved in the context of non-surgical oncology, by identifying the minimum capabilities in practice for non-surgical oncology that all newly qualified doctors require to be safe junior doctors, and by promoting an understanding of cancer and non-surgical oncology in newly qualified doctors. The undergraduate non-surgical oncology curriculum 2020 is available on the RCR website to download.

### British Oncology Network for Undergraduate Societies (BONUS)

A national network of medical students and junior doctors promoting medical, clinical and surgical oncology.

BONUS:

- Collaborate in national research projects which encourage active involvement from medical students.
- Organise research presentation evenings allowing students to present their research nationally – with prizes available!
- Host career and education events delivered by senior clinicians across the UK.
- Connect university oncology societies nation-wide to promote student-led events.

Twitter: @Bonusoncsoc

Email: [bonus.oncology@gmail.com](mailto:bonus.oncology@gmail.com)

### Choose Oncology campaign

Sign up to our choose oncology campaign to receive updates and emails.

## 06

## Undergraduate committee

Member	Region	Membership
Dr Alison Stillie	Edinburgh	Chair
Dr Alison Birtle		Academic representative
Dr Amy Cooper	Edinburgh	Trainee Member
Dr Emma Khoury	London	Internal Medicine Trainee Member
Dr Holly Egan	Manchester	Foundation Year Member
Dr Mandip Khaira	Sheffield	Consultant Member
Dr Samantha Forner	London	Consultant Member
Dr Tasia Aghadiuno	Velindre	Trainee Member
Vacancy available		Undergraduate Member
Vacancy available		Consultant Member
Vacancy available		Consultant Member

## 07

## Profiles: Why Oncology?

**Dr Alison Stillie**

**Consultant Clinical Oncologist and Associate Director of Medical Education,  
Edinburgh Cancer Centre, Western General Hospital in Edinburgh**

I followed a career in clinical oncology as it allows me to work collaboratively with colleagues across the multi-disciplinary team to deliver radiotherapy and systemic anti-cancer therapy to patients in an ever-changing field. I enjoy the focus on teamwork, regular patient contact, the opportunity to participate in clinical trials, and the breadth of treatments that we can now offer our patients.

**Dr Holly Egan**

**Specialised Foundation Programme Year 1 Doctor  
Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust**

Oncology for me encompasses everything I love about being a doctor - it is ever changing, the patients are varied, and you're able to help people in the worst times of their life. Oncologists work with a vast range of allied healthcare professionals and are at the forefront of research. My love for Oncology and Women's Health intertwines beautifully, and I cannot wait to pursue a career in Gynae-Oncology.

**Dr David Fackrell**

**Consultant Clinical Oncologist and Training Programme Director  
University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust**

I studied genetics as an undergraduate and this planted a seed for me. I find the science side of oncology fascinating and as the field is constantly evolving with fast-moving research, oncologists are able to apply cutting-edge treatments, such as radiotherapy and immunotherapy, to improve outcomes. A career in clinical oncology is highly rewarding, offering the opportunity to work as part of a dedicated multidisciplinary team, including surgeons, radiologists, and nurses, to provide the best possible care for patients.

Since starting as an oncologist however, I have learned the most rewarding aspect is fostering deep professional relationships with patients, supporting them through some of the most challenging times in their lives. This combination of teamwork, innovation, and meaningful patient connections makes oncology a fulfilling and impactful career choice.

**Dr Jo Ann Wong**

**Clinical Oncology Specialty Registrar (ST5)  
Weston Park Cancer Centre, Sheffield Teaching Hospital**

I find oncology is a unique and a fast-advancing specialty. We can tailor individualised care for each patient taking into account the type and molecular structures of the cancer, the patient's preference and their comorbidities. This makes the job exciting, and no day is the same. A bonus is the great sense of satisfaction of making a difference in a patient's life, as little as relieving their symptoms or as great as telling them the cancer is gone.

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# 07

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**Dr Adit Bassi**

**Foundation Programme Year 1 Doctor**

**Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust**

I am interested in pursuing oncology as it is a deeply rewarding specialty that combines a broad knowledge of multiple body systems with the opportunity to build strong, personal relationships with patients and their families. The field is constantly evolving, with groundbreaking research and innovative treatment modalities emerging every day, making it an exciting and dynamic area of medicine. The ability to support patients through their journey, from diagnosis to treatment and beyond, is both a privilege and a responsibility that I find incredibly meaningful.

**Dr Taha Lodhi**

**MCRC PhD Clinical Research Training Fellow and Academic Clinical Fellow - Clinical**

**Oncology. University of Manchester/Christie NHS Foundation Trust**

I was drawn to Oncology because it sits at the intersection of cutting-edge science, technology, pharmacology, and genetics. It's a field that constantly reinvents itself and is the most rapidly evolving specialty in medicine. Beyond the science, it's the human side, the resilience and gratitude of patients that makes this career deeply meaningful. It's not very often that you get to truly feel you're making a difference every single day.

**Thank you for attending the 2025 RCR Virtual Oncology careers day**

Remember to complete the feedback survey to receive your attendance certificate.

We wish you all the best in your studies and look forward to welcoming you as a member of the RCR soon.

Be the difference. Choose Oncology.

**- Dr Alison Stillie**

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