





Radiotherapy Board

Summary Report 6: April 2025

The <u>Radiotherapy Board</u> is a partnership between the Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine, The Royal College of Radiologists and the Society and College of Radiographers. It provides guidance, oversight and support for the continuing development of high-quality radiotherapy services for UK patients with cancer.

The Board's three strategic priorities are:

- Workforce advising stakeholders and policy-makers about future workforce requirements, to ensure a trained, skilled and flexible, multi-disciplinary radiotherapy workforce
- **Guidance** providing professional guidance to underpin the highest standards of radiotherapy service delivery
- **Equipment** promoting the need for sufficient radiotherapy equipment to meet increasing patient demand and provide a high-quality service.

Since its previous Summary Report (October 2024) the Board has:

• responded to the call for evidence that will inform the new National Cancer Plan for England

This highlighted the need for a fully-funded, centrally-coordinated programme for equipment replacement; for development programmes that will deliver the necessary skilled, specialist workforce to provide highquality radiotherapy services; the key role of national data in informing and enhancing service quality and consistency; and the importance of increased uptake of innovation and new technologies, underpinned by increased resourcing for radiotherapy clinical trials. The Board also drew attention to the crucial role of centralised leadership in radiotherapy following the dissolution of NHS England.

• published <u>Guidance on the management of patients with cardiac implantable electronic devices</u> receiving radiotherapy

Produced in association with the British Cardio-Oncology Society and the British Heart Rhythm Society, this guidance recommends the best evidence-based practice for managing patients with such devices who require radiotherapy.

The Board is currently:

- preparing new guidance on managing patients with active implantable medical devices This will cover non-cardiac AIMDs in low-, medium- and high-risk categories and address both pretreatment processes and treatment planning as key stages in patient management. The Board is aiming to publish this guidance by the end of 2025.
- **finalising a Green Radiotherapy Framework** This will enable departments to apply for a Bronze, Silver or Gold award to indicate their sustainable working practices, based on evidence provided. It is due to be launched by summer 2025.
- reviewing its guidance entitled *Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations: implications for clinical practice in radiotherapy* This review is needed to ensure that the guidance reflects the changes in education, training, clinical practice and governance introduced by the IR(ME)R (Amendment) Regulations 2024. It is being
- undertaken in association with the UK Health Security Agency.
 investigating the provision of services for patients experiencing ongoing consequences ('late effects') from their radiotherapy treatment

This exploratory work will inform the possible future development of national guidance in this area.

There is more information about the work of the Radiotherapy Board on <u>these web pages</u> (hosted for the Board by the RCR) and you can contact us at <u>RadiotherapyBoard@rcr.ac.uk</u>.