



The Abdus Salam  
**International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics**  
50th Anniversary 1964–2014



# JOINT ICTP-IAEA MEETING ON TRAINING IN PATIENT SAFETY IN RADIOTHERAPY

**24 - 28 November 2014**

***Miramare, Trieste, Italy***

The aim of this course is to provide advanced knowledge to meet the increasing need of radiation protection and safety of patients undergoing radiotherapy procedures.

The course will:

- disseminate information on lessons learned from radiotherapy incidents and accidents that have occurred in the past
- train participants in the critical aspects of radiotherapy safety learning and implementation
- train participants in methods for retrospective and prospective risk analysis in radiotherapy

Radiotherapy has long been an effective way of treating cancer and it is estimated that 50-60% of patients with cancer would benefit from radiotherapy. Expanding radiotherapy into areas with limited current access has the potential to save a great number of lives, but it is mandatory that the expansion is done with safety in mind, considering the complexity of this high-technology treatment modality and the potential for serious consequences when something goes wrong. It is worth considering that there have been more deaths and early acute health effects due to radiation accidents in medical uses than due to any other source, including accidents at nuclear facilities.

While there is a broad agreement by experts that radiotherapy is a very safe form of treatment, where more than 5 million treatments are delivered annually in the world, there is also recognition that safety measures need to be further progressed at several levels for this complex and rapidly developing medical specialty. The need to develop leadership in radiation safety in radiotherapy is acute.

ICTP is a world renowned centre for training in physics and allied sciences and IAEA has developed lead in medical radiation protection. A program under the umbrella of both these organizations is expected to attract right talent and has potential to meet objectives of both organizations effectively.

## **PARTICIPATION**

This course would seek to target experienced medical physicists working in hospitals in radiotherapy departments and teachers involved in medical physics education to radiotherapy residents. Scientists and students from all countries which are members of the United Nations, UNESCO or IAEA may attend the course. As it will be conducted in English, participants should have an adequate working knowledge of this language. Although the main purpose of the Centre is to help research workers from developing countries, through a programme of training activities within a framework of international cooperation, students and post-doctoral scientists from developed countries are also welcome to attend. As a rule, travel and subsistence expenses of the participants should be borne by the home institution. Every effort should be made by candidates to secure support for their fare (or at least half-fare). However, limited funds are available for some participants from developing countries, to be selected by the organizers. There is no registration fee.

## **How to Apply**

The Online Application Form can be accessed at the ICTP activity website:

[http://cdsagenda5.ictp.it/full\\_display.php?id=a13209](http://cdsagenda5.ictp.it/full_display.php?id=a13209)

Once in the website, comprehensive instructions will guide you step-by-step, on how to fill out and submit the application form.

## **Activity Secretariat**

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## **DIRECTORS**

**O. Holmberg (IAEA, Vienna)**

## **LOCAL ORGANIZER**

**L. Bertocchi (ICTP)**

## **TOPICS**

**Case studies of incidents and accidents in radiotherapy – lessons learned**

**Clinical consequences of accidents in radiotherapy**

**Safety reporting and learning**

**Retrospective risk analysis**

**Prospective methods for risk analysis**

## **APPLICATION DEADLINE**

**31 August 2014**