

Oct 2021

Meet the Students



My name is Maeve O'Leary, and I am delighted to be a first-year student in MSc in Radiation Therapy in University College Cork. I graduated with a Bachelor of Science from Munster Technological University. I have always been extremely interested in Health Sciences and after undergoing extensive research I found myself becoming interested in a career in Radiation Therapy. Cancer has negatively affected the lives of so many including members of my own family, because of this I have found myself becoming passionate in helping those affected. I love the idea of being able to help someone on their journey of a cancer diagnosis and playing a critical role in patient care.

Although Radiation Therapy is a technical field, there is also a lot of communication skills and empathy required. I have these necessary skills and that can be utilised to help families who have been affected by this devastating disease. We as radiation therapists work with patients throughout their course of treatment and they develop a sense of trust with all the team members that are part of their care. I am excited to be a part of the multi-disciplinary team to help plan and deliver patients' treatment and to assist in observing the clinical progress of patients and recognising and managing the patient's side effects. I believe now would be an exciting time to enter the radiotherapy field due to the advances in technology used and the rapidly evolving nature of the field. Radiation therapy is an exciting field to be in and there is a lot of high-quality oncology research which I find interesting. I am excited to begin my career as a radiation therapist as it is going to be an extremely rewarding role.

Welcome to Anmarie Devine, Practice Education Coordinator



I have recently started working in UCC (UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK) as the Practice Education Coordinator for the MSc Radiation Therapy course. I completed a BSc in Radiation Therapy at Trinity College Dublin. I subsequently worked as a Radiation Therapist at St. Vincent's Private Hospital and worked there for four years. At the time, the department was during a large development project, so I learned a lot and really enjoyed my time there. Additionally, I was fortunate enough to be involved in student education and assessment. I found this experience extremely rewarding and learned a lot from it, which I have use in my current role. To further my interest in research, I completed a MSc in Clinical and Translational Research at UCD (UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN) in 2019. In 2019, I moved to Cork to work in the CUH (CORK UNIVERSITY

HOSPITAL). At the time, the Glandore Centre was opening, and it was a really exciting time to start working in a new department. Early this year, I started working in UCC as the Programme Development Coordinator for the MSc Radiation Therapy course. I am delighted to now be working as the Practice Education coordinator for the MSc Radiation Therapy and I as part of the team in the discipline of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy in UCC.

Welcome to Dr Andrew England, Senior Lecturer



I was delighted to have been appointed as Senior Lecturer in Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy at University College Cork. I started work on the 1st of November and I am incredibly excited to be working in Ireland, which is well-known for its outstanding reputation in radiography education. I qualified as a diagnostic radiography from the University of Liverpool in 1999. I then worked clinically in Manchester for 7 years before securing my first academic appointment back at the University of Liverpool. Since 2006, I have always worked as a university academic, but have always kept a clinical role running alongside. Having gained my PhD in 2014, I have been passionately involved in research, specifically in digital radiography, dose optimisation, computed tomography, mammography, and patient experience / safety. I am very much looking forward to contributing to the teaching and research at UCC.

Welcome to Alicia O'Leary, Practice tutor



In October I joined the Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy team in University College Cork (UCC), as Practice Tutor for the MSc Radiation Therapy course. It has been lovely to return to UCC where I completed my BSc in Neuroscience. I subsequently studied Radiation Therapy and Oncology in London South Bank University. I gained valuable experience in some of London's largest radiotherapy departments, before returning to Ireland where I joined the team in the UPMC Hillman Cancer Centre, UPMC Whitfield Hospital, Waterford. During my time there I worked in a specialised dual role as Radiation Therapist and Medical Dosimetrist. I have always had an interest in education and research, and so my responsibilities included the organisation of staff training and education sessions in the UPMC Hillman Cancer Centre. This education role further developed into coordinating patient information evenings and contributing to the improvement of the patient education framework in the radiation therapy department. I am delighted to be able to bring my passion for radiotherapy treatment planning, research, and clinical education into my new role as Practice Tutor.

UCC at the ISRRT (International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists) Congress 2021

The ISRRT congress was a hugely informative enjoyable event and the staff at UCC would like to thank IIRRT president Dean Harper, IIRRT Chairperson Michele Monahan, IIRRT CPD (Continuing Professional Development) officer Sinead O'Sullivan, IIRRT Officer Ann Marie Lynam and Dr Shane Foley (UCD) for working tirelessly over the last 2 years to bring such a tremendous conference to Ireland. UCC were delighted and privileged to have members of the team sitting on the IIRRT council who contributed to the organising and the chairing of various sessions throughout this 3-day event. UCC's head of discipline Prof Mark McEntee also provided some great sessions during this conference. The session that he attracted most interest in was his debate with Dr Shane Foley where both speakers provided great insight and up to date information on "Lead Shielding in Radiography." This debate took place as a live session during the congress. This is an extremely important topic for our profession and one which provoked a lot of discussion and interest from near and far. Both participants put forward convincing arguments for and against the subject and it was clear from this session that there is the need to further debate this topic and that our profession in collaboration with patients should be heavily involved in all decisions around this subject. *Niamh Moore*

Adult IV cannulation course for radiographers and radiation therapists

Another fully booked UCC Adult IV course for Radiographers and Radiation Therapists will take place on 4th/5th Nov. For those interested in getting further information or attending this biannual event please email radiography@ucc.ie. If you or any of your team would like to receive updates about upcoming IV courses, contact the team at the above email. Forthcoming courses will be advertised via social media and email correspondence to Radiography Service Managers, Radiation Therapy Services Managers, and all of those who have requested to be on our mailing list. *Niamh Moore*

Red dot and Image Interpretation study days at UCC

Red dot systems have been used for many years. They allow radiographers to highlight abnormalities to referrers in a timely fashion. As a former reporting radiographer, I am passionate about radiographers' education in image interpretation. I want to encourage radiographers to use the skills that they already have from looking at radiographs, the ability to distinguish what is normal from abnormal, to give them the confidence and ability to detect and describe abnormalities.

We ran our first red dot study day on the 2nd of October. The first talks were given by Prof McEntee who discussed the practical implementation of a Red Dot System. He gave advice on how to set up a red dot system and discussed how this had been done in the UK (United Kingdom) and Singapore. He discussed the differences between Red Dot, RADS (Radiographer Abnormality Detection System), and image interpretation

The second half of the morning provided radiographers with tools to develop a systematic method to be able to recognise gross pathology on radiographic images. I discussed the basic principles of fracture detection and description on radiographs. I focused on both upper and lower limb trauma. These talks gave radiographers valuable knowledge and skills to take into their role and will form an impactful piece of continuing professional development for CPD portfolios. *Gráinne Curran*

Publications and Grant success 2021 so far...

September 23rd: Dementia patient care in the medical radiation sciences was the topic for the International MedRadJClub twitter chat. Challen, Low & McEntee, the authors of September's paper "Dementia patient care in the diagnostic medical imaging department" argue that diagnostic MRS practitioners are grossly underprepared to work with people with dementia. The discussion was lively and focused on what do we need to know to care for this patient population and what constitutes current best practice. The blog by professor McEntee went Radiography scale viral with over 100 likes and 90 retweets. Scan the QR code to read the blog and article.



Journal articles. We have had another highly successful year to date with 26 publications and counting for 2021. A

1. A personal view of dementia care in radiography. McEntee, M. (2021). *Journal of Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences*.
2. DBT and ultrasound in the evaluation of mammography-recalled women with dense and non-dense breasts. Hadadi, I., Rae, W., Clarke, J., McEntee, M., & Ekpo, E. (2021, September). In *ASIA-PACIFIC JOURNAL OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY* (Vol. 17, pp. 53-54). 111 RIVER ST, HOBOKEN 07030-5774, NJ USA: WILEY.
3. Artificial intelligence: The opinions of radiographers and radiation therapists in Ireland. Ryan, M. L., O'Donovan, T., & McNulty, J. P. (2021). *Radiography*.
4. Breast cancer detection: Comparison of digital mammography and digital breast tomosynthesis across non-dense and dense breasts. Hadadi, I., Rae, W., Clarke, J., McEntee, M., & Ekpo, E. (2021). *Radiography*.
5. Bridging the divide between medical school and clinical practice: identification of six key learning outcomes for an undergraduate preparatory course in radiology. T Simelane, DJ Ryan, S Stoyanov, D Bennett, M McEntee, MM Maher, ...*Insights into imaging* 12 (1), 1-8,
6. Mammographic density changes following BC treatment. IH Kanbayti, WID Rae, MF McEntee, EU Ekpo. *Clinical Imaging* 76, 88-97, 2021
7. Endovascular management of pelvic trauma. A Weir, P Kennedy, S Joyce, D Ryan, L Spence, M McEntee, M Maher, ...*Annals of Translational Medicine* 9 (14), 2021
8. Clinicopathologic breast cancer characteristics: predictions using global textural features of the ipsilateral breast mammogram. IH Kanbayti, WID Rae, MF McEntee, Z Gandomkar, EU Ekpo. *Radiological Physics and Technology*, 1-14, 2021
9. The impact of COVID-19 upon student radiographers and clinical training. LA Rainford, M Zanardo, C Buissink, R Decoster, W Hennessy, K Knapp, ...*Radiography* 27 (2), 464-474, 12, 2021
10. Breast cancer detection: Comparison of digital mammography and digital breast tomosynthesis across non-dense and dense breasts. I Hadadi, W Rae, J Clarke, M McEntee, E Ekpo. *Radiography*, 2021
11. Computed tomography in cystic fibrosis lung disease: a focus on radiation exposure. S Joyce, BW Carey, N Moore, D Mullane, M Moore, MF McEntee, BJ Plant, ...*Pediatric Radiology* 51 (4), 544-553, 2021
12. Diagnostic Performance of Adjunctive Imaging Modalities Compared to Mammography alone in women with Non-dense and Dense Breasts: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis. I Hadadi, W Rae, J Clarke, M McEntee, E Ekpo. *Clinical Breast Cancer*, 2021
13. Radiation dose tracking in computed tomography: Red alerts and feedback. Implementing a radiation dose alert system in CT. C Crowley, EU Ekpo, BW Carey, S Joyce, C Kennedy, T Grey, B Duffy, ...*Radiography* 27 (1), 67-74, 1, 2021
14. Accuracy of radiographer comment following a two-month experiential and blended learning in appendicular skeleton X-ray interpretation: The Singapore experience. E Del Gante, M Kumar, M McEntee, LH Sng, CYY Tan, CWK Yeo, WY Sim, ...*Radiography* 27 (1), 43-47,
15. Computed tomography diagnostic reference levels for adult brain, chest, and abdominal examinations: A systematic review. Garba, I., F. Zarb, M. F. McEntee, and S. G. Fabri. *Radiography* 27, no. 2 (2021): 673-681.
16. Exploring the reliability of the exposure index with a range of kV and mAs values: An experimental study. T van Schoonhoven, CM Hayre, A England. *J Med Rad Sci* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.imir.2021.09.004>
17. Compassion fatigue and the effectiveness of support structures for diagnostic radiographers in oncology. S Robertson, A England, D Khodabakhshi. *J Med Rad Sci* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.imir.2020.11.008>
18. Variability in the perception and application of force used in IVC filter retrievals among interventional radiologists. TY Chan, U Shaikh, A England, RG McWilliams. *Radiography* 2021 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.radi.2021.07.023>
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22. Low-dose chest CT and the impact on nodule visibility. J Tugwell-Allsup, BW Owen, A England. *Radiography* 27(1):24-30.
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24. Mobile chest imaging of neonates in incubators: Optimising DR and CR acquisitions. *Radiography* 27(1):75-80.
25. An investigation into the variability of radiographers assessing body composition prior to CT contrast media administration. K Dastan, MK Henning, A England, TM Aalokken, S Johansen. *Radiography* 27(1):168-172.
26. Comparing the supine and erect pelvis radiographic examinations: an evaluation of anatomy, image quality and radiation dose. K Flintham, K Alzyoud, A England, P Hogg, B SNaith. *Br J Radiol* 94(1123):20210047.

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