

Discipline of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Newsletter

October 2022

News from UCC Discipline of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy.

Welcome to Professor Aisling Barry (MME)

Dr Aisling Barry is Professor and Chair of Radiation Oncology at University College Cork and a consultant radiation oncologist at Cork University Hospital. She is the first radiation oncologist to hold such a position in Cork.

DDrBarry received her undergraduate education at Trinity College Dublin (2005) and completed her radiation oncology speciality training through the RCSI/St. Luke's Radiation Oncology Network. She subsequently completed fellowships in breast cancer radiotherapy (2014-2015) and stereotactic body radiotherapy (SBRT) – specifically for liver and lung cancers, at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre (2015-2016). She has also completed a Masters in Clinical Epidemiology at the University of Toronto on health-related quality of life outcomes in patients with oligo-metastatic disease. She is a recipient of numerous awards, including a Dr Richard Steevens' HSE award, which enabled her to complete dedicated SBRT fellowship training at PMCC, a Conquer Cancer Foundation of ASCO Merit Award at GI ASCO for her work on the use of SBRT as a bridging therapy to liver transplant and an Annual Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium Award.



Dr Barry has expertise delivering SBRT, specifically in primary and secondary liver malignancies and oligo-metastatic disease. She is currently a member of the liver radiotherapy clinical guideline group at the American Society for Radiation Oncology, co-authoring the first radiotherapy guidelines on the use of radiotherapy for managing primary liver cancer. She has delivered multiple invited national and international talks on this topic.

She is an accomplished researcher and has led numerous studies at PMCC, including investigator-initiated studies on the use of SBRT in the setting of oligo-progressive cancers and the use of virtual biometric monitoring in patients receiving palliative radiotherapy. Dr Barry has also led and been a co-investigator on several grants applying her research interests in the clinical setting. She is also heavily involved in education and previously co-led the internationally renowned liver SBRT/IGRT educational course in the Accelerated Education Program at PMCC. She has supervised numerous resident and fellow research projects.

Congratulations to Award Winners (Niamh)



Names L to R: Dr Andrew England (Senior Lecturer), Kate Murphy (Radiation Therapist), Sarah Coakley (Radiographer), Melissa Breen (Radiographer), Maria Long (Radiographer), Shauna Doyle (Radiographer), Hazel Murphy (Radiographer), Prof Mark McEntee (Chair/Head of Discipline)

The School of Medicine's annual Student Prize-Giving event, which had been delayed due to COVID restrictions, eventually took place on Friday, 16th September, to acknowledge the excellent student performances for 2020 and 2021. We offer massive congratulations to each of the Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy prize winners of 2020 and 2021. Hazel Murphy was the recipient of several Diagnostic Radiography awards for 2020, winning the highest overall mark, the highest mark in physics and the highest mark in research. Aisling O'Leary was absent on the prize-giving day but was awarded the highest mark in Professional Practice for 2020. Sarah Coakley was awarded the highest mark in the first year in 2020 and, in 2021, the highest mark in physics. Shauna Doyle was awarded the overall highest mark in 2021 and the highest mark in research subjects. Melissa Breen was the winner of the highest mark in the Professional Practice units for 2021. This was the first year of awards for the MSc Radiation Therapy students, with Kate Murphy winning the highest mark in the first year in 2021. Well done to all of the deserving winners.

It is with great appreciation that we offer thanks to all of our sponsors, HSE South-South West Hospital Group, Affidea, Alliance Medical, Synapse Medical, GE Medical and Bayer, who have sponsored all of the Student Prize-giving awards and have continued to be a great support to us over the last four years.

Congratulations to Olive Fleming memorial award Winners (Rena and Annemarie)

2021 Diagnostic Radiography – Shauna Doyle

2022 Diagnostic Radiography – Lauren Hurley

2022 Radiation Therapy – Kate Murphy

UCC Symposium on Cutting Edge CT (Andrew)

Academics from the Discipline of Medical Imaging & Radiation Therapy at University College Cork successfully ran a symposium on Cutting Edge Computed Tomography (Saturday, 17th September 2022). The event was supported by a competitive grant from the Health Research Board (HRB), providing opportunities for remote and in-person attendance. An international faculty delivered talks on contrast agent efficiency, CT dose optimisation, dose management systems, AI, photon counting CT, patient involvement and experience, radiation therapy planning and CT education. Speakers were from various academic, healthcare and industrial organisations, including the University of Bradford, MDCT Academy, Cork University Hospital, Bons Secours Hospital, GE Healthcare, Siemens Healthineers, VisionRT and the European Society of Radiology Patient Advisory Group. The event was attended by over 70 delegates, including radiographers, radiation therapists and radiologists. The Organising Committee are planning to make this an annual event, so please look out for further details / hold the dates.



POCUS report (MME)

Focus on students RT (AD)

Laura Delaney, former student, MSc Radiation Therapy UCC.

“I began my journey in healthcare back in 2016-2020, where I completed my undergraduate degree in general nursing. During my clinical internship, I spent several weeks in the Covid ward in March 2020. It was challenging but extremely rewarding in terms of a patient recovery perspective from the care they had received.

I have always had a keen interest in Radiation Therapy and the ever-evolving branch of medicine that it is. When the course came about at UCC, I remember it felt like a good omen! It was the best decision I could have made. I am so thankful to the wonderful college staff, clinic Radiation Therapists and fellow students I have had the opportunity to meet with.

I look forward to using this knowledge to make a difference in the lives of those needing our care in the future.”

We keep working on research here is a sample of our publications since the last newsletter Publications

Bockhold, S., McNulty, J., Abdurakman, E., Bezzina, P., Drey, N., England, A., Flinton, D., Khine, R., McEntee, M., Mekiš, N. and Precht, H., 2022. Research ethics training, challenges, and suggested improvements across Europe: Radiography research ethics standards for Europe (RRESFE). *Radiography*, 28(4), pp.1016-1024.

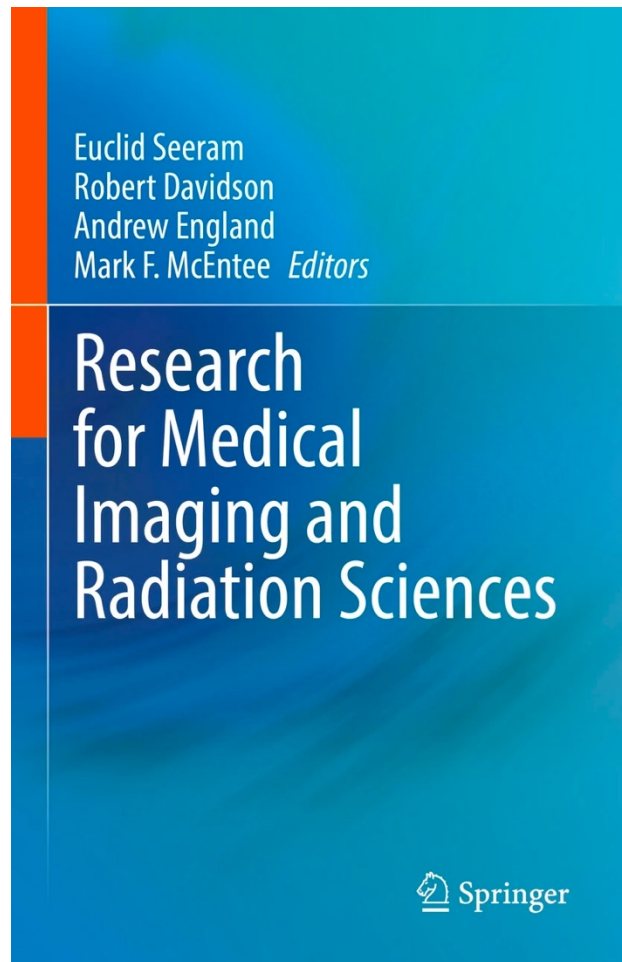
Coakley, S., Young, R., Moore, N., England, A., O'Mahony, A., O'Connor, O.J., Maher, M. and McEntee, M.F., 2022. Radiographers' knowledge, attitudes and expectations of artificial intelligence in medical imaging. *Radiography*, 28(4), pp.943-948.

O'Donoghue, K., Malamateniou, C., Walton, L., England, A., Moore, N. and McEntee, M.F., 2022. The gendered impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on academics working in medical imaging and radiation therapy. *Radiography*, 28, pp.S41-S49.

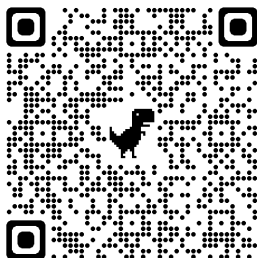
Hadadi, I., Clarke, J., Rae, W., McEntee, M., Vincent, W. and Ekpo, E., 2022. Reducing Unnecessary Biopsies Using Digital Breast Tomosynthesis and Ultrasound in Dense and Nondense Breasts. *Current Oncology*, 29(8), pp.5508-5516.

Mizzi, Deborah, Clare Allely, Francis Zarb, Judith Kelly, Peter Hogg, Mark McEntee, Andrew England, and Claire Mercer. "Examining the effectiveness of supplementary imaging modalities for breast cancer screening in women with dense breasts: A systematic review and meta-analysis." *European journal of radiology* (2022): 110416.

Congratulations to Mark McEntee and Andrew England on Co-writing with Euclid Seeram and Rob Davidson, a textbook on Research in Medical Radiation Sciences (2022).



Upcoming IV Cannulation and Administration course for Radiographers and Radiation Therapists



The next IV cannulation and Administration course will take place on the 21st and 22nd of November. There are a limited number of places available, and they will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Please Scan the code to apply

There will be further courses in 2023. Email MIRT@UCC.ie to join the wait list.