

For Immediate Release

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So you think you know IGRT? Radiotherapy Imaging: Goals, Challenges and the Diagnostic Basics

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[L-R: Andrew J Reilly (Churchill Hospital, Oxford), David Platten (Northampton General Hospital), Andy Beavis (Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals)]

The British Institute of Radiology hosted a very well attended radiology event at the BIR's headquarters on Portland Place on 17-18 November 2010.

So you think you know IGRT? Radiotherapy Imaging: Goals, Challenges and the Diagnostic Basics was organised by Mr Andrew Reilly and the BIR's Radiation Physics and Dosimetry Committee on behalf of the BIR.

Medical imaging lies at the heart of advanced radiotherapy treatment techniques. Volume definition, treatment simulation, set-up verification and follow-up for recurrence all rely upon a range of imaging modalities. Radiotherapy is unique in that all images acquired throughout the patient journey can be considered in the same geometrical context. Furthermore, with increasing availability of networked radiotherapy management systems, PACS and also access to newer imaging modalities, opportunities for multi-modality image fusion are becoming more widespread.

This meeting provided an overview of the diagnostic science underpinning radiotherapy imaging. The role of different imaging modalities in the treatment planning and delivery processes were considered and the physical characteristics of each compared. Methods for robustly and quantitatively assessing image quality were discussed, with an emphasis on linking results from physics-based methods to a system's efficacy for the intended clinical task. Concomitant dose from imaging studies were also be considered and clinically relevant methods for optimisation and risk determination were explored.

Invited speakers included David Platten (Northampton General Hospital), who talked about the *Fundamentals of Image Quality Evaluation* and Andy Beavis (Hull And East Yorkshire Hospitals) discussed *Volumetric In-Vivo Dosimetry using Imaging Devices*.

Meeting organiser, Mr Andrew Reilly, comments: "This popular two-day meeting aimed to consider image-guided radiotherapy (IGRT) from all perspectives. Focusing wider than just state-of-the-art imaging for treatment verification, the speakers covered all aspects of radiotherapy imaging across the whole patient journey".

To find out more about the BIR's diverse programme of topical scientific meetings please visit www.bir.org.uk.

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Notes to Editors:

The British Institute of Radiology (BIR) is an independent member-based charity bringing together all the professions in radiology and allied medical and scientific disciplines to share knowledge and educate the public, thereby improving prevention and detection of disease and management and treatment of patients. The BIR is the oldest radiological society in the world. The origins of the BIR can be traced back to a first meeting held in 1897 to form "The X-ray Society".

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