

Implementation and adaptation of the European Guidelines into the Romanian public hospitals; the medical physicist role in the Romanian context

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Introduction

Radiation therapy and diagnostic are the basic tools of advanced contemporary medicine in cancer management.

Current medical practice uses radiation therapy in about 50% of newly diagnosed cancer cases.

These techniques can be highly complex and places high demands on accuracy, quality assurance, quality control and evaluation.

Purpose of the study

The European Guidelines have a beneficial role for improving the quality of diagnosis and treatment of cancer and they have already greatly reduced the differences in the quality of health care among EU countries.

Materials and Methods

The European Guidelines were implemented into our Romanian hospital as a critical step toward developing and improving the QC standards of the Romanian public hospital with special focus on the medical physicist role.

Materials and Methods

As a need of implementation of the requirements of Directive 97/43/EURATOM and Directive 96/29/EURATOM regarding the medical practices, the other 3 practice specific regulations were issued (1,2,3). All these three practice specific regulations established the responsibilities of medical physics experts in these practices:

1. *Regulation of Radiological Safety on Radiotherapy Practice*, approved by Order no. 94 on 14.04.2004 of the President of National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control, published in Official Gazette no. 532 on 14.06.2004.
2. *Regulation of Radiological Safety on Radiotherapy Practice*, approved by Order no. 94 on 14.04.2004 of the President of National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control, published in Official Gazette no. 532 on 14.06.2004.
3. *Regulation of Radiological Safety on Nuclear Medicine*, approved by Order no. 358/18.10.2004 of the President of National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control, published in Official Gazette no. 139 din 15/02/2005.

Materials and Methods

The *Regulation on protection of individuals against ionizing radiation in relation to medical exposures* was completed by other 6 specific regulations:

- *Common Order no. 64/299/2006 of Ministry of Public Health and National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control, regarding ethic committees for approval of medical exposure in medical and biomedical research, published in the Official Gazette, Part I, no. 298 on 03.04.2006.*
- *Common Order no. 66/300/9112/2006 of National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control, Ministry of Public Health and National Authority for Scientifically Research for approval of Specific Regulation regarding medical exposure in medical and/or biomedical research, published in the Official Gazette, Part I, no. 353 on 19.04.2006.*
- *Order no. 1541 on 11.12.2006 of Ministry of Public Health on approval of Specific Regulation regarding ionizing radiation medical exposure of pregnant women, published in the Official Gazette, Part I, no. 1039 on 28/12/2006.*
- *Order no. 1542 on 11.12.2006 of Ministry of Public Health on Registration and Reporting of patient dose, published in the Official Gazette, Part I, no. 1042 on 28/12/2006.*
- *Order no. 1539 on 11.12.2006 of Ministry of Public Health on approval of Specific Regulation on ionizing radiation medical exposure of individuals in the case of medico-legal procedures, published in the Official Gazette, Part I, no. 3 on 03/01/2007.*
- *Order no. 1540 on 11.12.2006 of Ministry of Public Health on approval of Specific Regulation on ionizing radiation medical exposure in pediatrics, published in the Official Gazette, Part I, no. 3 on 03/01/2007.*

Results

The European Guidelines were progressively implemented into Romanian hospitals as a critical step toward developing and improving the quality assurance, quality control standards and evaluation of the Romanian public hospital. Improving progressively the quality level of Radioprotection into Romanian hospitals is the best guaranty of success.

The legal recognition of the Medical Physicist :

Order no. 902/2005 of Ministry of Work, Social Solidarity and Family, on completion of Classification of Occupations from Romania, published in Official Gazette no. 46 on 18/01/2006

The legal recognition of the Medical Physics Expert:

- As a result of such a lot of regulations which implement the requirements of Council Directive 97/43/EURATOM
- Order no. 1272/266/2006 of the Minister of Public Health and of the President of National Commission for Nuclear Activities Control and published in Official Gazette, Part I, no. 906 on 07 November 2006
- *The Regulation on medical physics expert* is elaborated in compliance with the recommendations of the European Federation of Organizations for Medical Physics (EFOMP), mainly Policy Statements Nr. 2, 4, 8, 9, 10, and 11.

Conclusions

Important
to improve national healthcare quality and
to further harmonize guidelines within Europe

The development of targeted education programs

The advanced techniques and specific equipments

• The establishment of QA standards in our hospital

