

HONG KONG COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGISTS

Higher Training (Nuclear Medicine)

Subspecialty Training in Nuclear Oncology

[This document should be read in conjunction with the *General Guidelines on Higher Training (Nuclear Medicine)*]

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Nuclear oncology has been established as a major investigative and therapeutic tool around the world, as a result of a gradual change in the realization of the importance of functional imaging, early detection of cancer, prognostication and the prediction of response to therapy, and the importance of distinguishing viable tumour tissue from dead tumours during the follow-up period after treatment.
- 1.2 Radioguided surgery is another important aspect of clinical nuclear oncology which has, in many ways revolutionized surgery in a number of cancers, e.g. breast cancer, melanomas and colonic cancer.
- 1.3 This subspecialty training provides the trainee with special expertise to practice nuclear oncology procedures.

2. Objectives

The aim of the subspecialty training in nuclear oncology is to ensure a trainee at the end of training period to have:

- 2.1 Detailed understanding of indications for the specific nuclear oncology procedures, the safe use of radionuclides, basics of instrumentation and image processing, methods of quality control and image interpretation,
- 2.2 Hand-on supervised experience with an appropriate number of the standard procedures such as tumour imaging and sentinel node imaging and as many of the less commonly performed procedures including positron emission tomography.
- 2.3 Ability to manage clinical consultation related to the subspecialty.
- 2.4 Competence in clinical rounds and meetings.

3. Training Requirements

3.1 TRAINING CENTRE REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1.1 Gamma camera with the capability in performing planar dynamic and static studies, whole body and SPECT acquisition.
- 3.1.2 Well established oncology departments in the hospital.

3.2 TRAINER REQUIREMENTS

Please refer to the General Guidelines on Higher Training.

3.3 DURATION OF TRAINING

Six months of training are desirable.

3.4 DUTY SESSIONS

- 3.4.1 No less than four sessions per week specific for the subspecialty.
- 3.4.2 Attachment to another centre on sessional basis is advisable if exposure is inadequate or unavailable.

3.5 MINIMUM NUMBER OF EXAMINATIONS REQUIRED

The minimum workload of a trainee for 6 month of higher subspecialty training in nuclear oncology is 400. A suggested minimum number for each examination category is as follows:

<i>Examination Category</i>	<i>Requirement</i>
Tumour gallium imaging	50
Tumour MIBG imaging	
Tumour I-131 imaging	
Tumour thallium/MIBI imaging	
Sentinel lymph node imaging	
Tumour bone imaging	200

3.6 CLINICAL MEETINGS

Please refer to the General Guidelines on Higher Training.

3.7 PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Please refer to the General Guidelines on Higher Training.