The Department of Radiation Oncology held its first annual Translational Research Retreat on Monday, November 19, 2007 at The Cancer Institute of New Jersey.

The event provided an intimate setting for faculty and residents from the divisions of Clinical Radiation Oncology, Radiation Cancer Biology and Radiation Physics to discuss their ongoing, as well as developmental, research projects, to field questions from their colleagues about their research and to broach possible collaborative and translational projects.

The retreat was conceived and organized by the host, Radiation Cancer Biology division chief Zhiyuan Shen, Ph.D. It was well attended by members of the Department and was organized into three sessions, each chaired by a resident in Radiation Oncology.

The twelve presentations covered important topics in radiation oncology including dose optimization, genetic markers and biological modulations of radiation response.

For more information regarding ongoing research in Radiation Oncology contact Zhiyuan Shen, Ph.D. at shenzh@umdnj.edu or at 732.235.6101

HDR launched; Hi-Art Arrives

In November 2007 the department launched High Dose Rate Brachytherapy (HDR) and our Brachytherapy Suite.

High-dose rate (HDR) brachytherapy involves placing a sealed source of high energy radiation directly within or near the tumor via applicators such as needles, tubes, plaques, and others. These applicators can be placed over the surface of the tumor or within the tumor, or placed within a body cavity near the tumor. The radioactive source is automatically moved to desired positions through the applicators to produce optimized radiation dose coverage to the tumor and spare the surrounding normal tissues. HDR brachytherapy is usually performed as a short series of outpatient procedures.

Dr. Atif Khan recently completed a fellowship in brachytherapy at Harvard and will be focusing his activities on HDR brachytherapy.

Hi-Art System delivered

In November 2007 the department received delivery of the TomoTherapy, Inc. Hi-Art Treatment System. This system integrates optimized planning, image-guidance and helical delivery to provide precise, continuous radiation therapy from all angles around the patient. The system is scheduled to go on-line in January 2008.

For more information please contact Ning Jeff Yue, Ph.D., at yuenj@umdnj.edu for 2007 vs. 2006.
Residents’ Corner

Meetings

The 49th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ASTRO) was held October 28, 2007 through November 1, 2007 in Los Angeles California.

Chief resident Sharad Goyal, MD presented a poster entitled “Dynamic Multileaf Collimation (dMLC) with Fluence Modulation for Whole Brain Radiotherapy” and participated in a meeting for an ASTRO committee called the Education Sessions Subcommittee of the Education Council.

Matt Poppe, MD attended ASTRO as an Executive Committee Member of the Association of Residents in Radiation Oncology (ARRO).

Brett Lewis, MD attended ASTRO and was elected to join the “Emerging technologies Evaluation Committee” of ASTRO.

Abstracts

Sharad Goyal, MD submitted a manuscript for the abstract above entitled “Improvement in Dose Homogeneity with Electronic Tissue Compensation Over IMRT and Conventional RT In Whole Brain Radiotherapy” to the International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology & Physics.

Dr. Poppe’s abstract entitled, “Choosing the Modality of Radiation Therapy in Pancreatic Carcinoma: a Dosimetric Comparison of Intensity Modulated and 3D Conformal Radiotherapy” was accepted by the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) GI Symposium, to be held in Orlando, FL in January 2008.

Dr. Lewis submitted an abstract entitled “Electronic Tissue Compensation (EC) is dosimetrically superior to Inversely-Planned IMRT (IP_IMRT) for tangents to the intact breast after breast-conserving surgery” to the American Radium Society being held in Laguna Niguel, CA in May 2007.

New Recruits

The Department of Radiation Oncology welcomes three new recruits: Dr. Bing Xia, Ph.D., Dr. Atif Khan, M.D. and Ms. Sharda Kohli, M.B.A.

Dr. Bing Xia received his Ph.D. in 2001 from the Department of Biochemistry at UMDNJ-RWJMS. He joins us from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School. Dr. Xia joins the division of Radiation Cancer Biology as an Assistant Professor.

Dr. Atif Khan received his M.D. from Aga Khan University Medical College in Karachi, Pakistan. He completed his internship in the Department of Internal Medicine at the Hospital of St. Raphael's in New Haven, CT. Dr. Khan received his M.S. in Radiological Sciences from Rush University in Chicago IL and completed his residency in the Department of Radiation Oncology at Rush University Medical Center. Dr. Khan also completed a fellowship in brachytherapy at Harvard. Dr. Khan joins the Division of Clinical Radiation Oncology as Assistant Professor.

Ms. Sharda Kohli received her B. S. from New York University in Biology and her M.B.A. in Finance from Baruch College, City University of New York. She has over 15 years of experience in academic department management and joins us from the Department of Medicine at UMDNJ—New Jersey Medical School in Newark.

Welcome aboard to all!

Clinical Stats

November saw a continuation of the upward trend in Total New Patients on Treatment. New patients receiving treatment have increased despite a decrease in the number of total consults for October and November 2007. The decrease in total consults was directly related to reduced staffing.

It is expected that the upward trend in new patients on treatment will continue through the end of the calendar year and the total number of consults will increase as the impact of the full complement of physicians is achieved.
Extramural Funding

Evaluation of the P53 binding in Local Regional Management of Breast Cancer
*The Breast Cancer Research Foundation*

**PI:** Bruce Haffty, M.D.

October 2007—September 2008

Total Award: $216,000

Significance of SNP309 in early onset breast cancer (Age specific prevalence of SNP in the MDM2 Gene)

- **The Cancer Institute of New Jersey**
  **PI:** Bruce Haffty, M.D.
  September 2007—August 2008
  Total Award: $52,850

Regulation of BCCIP, a BDCA2-Interacting Protein in DNA Repair and Breast Cancer
*Department of Defense*

**PI:** Huimei Lu/Mentor Zhiyuan Shen, M.D., Ph.D.

August 2007—April 2008

Total Award: $27,211

Regulation of Cell Cycle by BCCIP, a BRCA2 and CDKN1A (Cip/p21) Interacting Protein
*Department of Defense*

**PI:** Zhiyuan Shen, M.D., Ph.D.

August 2007—April 2008

Total Award: $199,426

Recent Publications

**Bruce Haffty, MD, Professor:**

Smith BD, Haffty BG, Smith GL, Hurria A, Buchholz TA, Gross CP.
Use of Postmastectomy Radiotherapy in Older Women.
*Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* 2007 Nov 7; PMID: 17996393

Wilson LD, Yu JB, Haffty BG.

Parikh RR, Yang Q, Higgins SA, Haffty BG.
Outcomes in Young Women with Breast Cancer of Triple-Negative Phenotype: The Prognostic Significance of CK19 Expression.
*Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* 2007 Sep 11; PMID: 17855007

**Atif Khan, MD, Assistant Professor:**

Inherent change in Mammotome applicator three-dimensional geometry over time.

**Ning Yue, PhD, Professor:**

Selvaraj RN, Beriwal S, Pourarian RJ, Lalonde RJ, Chen A, Mehta K, Brunner G, Wagner KA, Yue NJ, Huq SM, Heron DE.
Clinical Implementation of Tangential Field Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT) Using Sliding Window Technique and Dosimetric Comparison with 3D Conformal Therapy (3D-CRT) in Breast Cancer.

Ding C, Li X, Huq MS, Saw CB, Heron DE, Yue NJ.
The effect of respiratory cycle and radiation beam-on timing on the dose distribution of free-breathing breast treatment using dynamic IMRT.

Zhiyuan Shen, MD, PhD, Associate Professor:

Lu H, Yue J, Meng X, Nickoloff JA, Shen Z.
BCCIP regulates homologous recombination by distinct domains and suppresses spontaneous DNA damage.
*Nucleic Acids Res.* 2007 Oct 18; PMID: 17947333
THE DEPARTMENT OF RADIATION ONCOLOGY AT UMDNJ - RWJMS AND CINJ AND RWJUH

Bruce G. Haffty MD
Professor and Chair

Clinical Radiation Oncology
- Molly Gabel, MD
  Associate Professor and
  Chief, Clinical Radiation Oncology
- Alan Cohler, MD
  Instructor
- Salma Jabbour, MD
  Assistant Professor
- Eduard Kagan, MD
  Assistant Professor
- Atif Khan, MD
  Assistant Professor
- Sung Kim, MD
  Assistant Professor and
  Associate Director, Residency Training Program
- Michael McKenna, MD
  Assistant Professor

Residents
- Sharad Goyal, MD
  Chief Resident PGY-5
- Brett Lewis, MD, PhD
  PGY-3
- Matthew Poppe, MD
  PGY-3
- Parima Darouei, MD, PhD
  PGY-2
- Sabin Motwani, MD, PhD
  PGY-2

Radiation Physics
- Ning Jeff Yue, PhD
  Professor, Vice Chair and
  Chief, Radiation Physics
- Satish Jaywant, PhD
  Associate Professor
- Venkat Narra PhD
  Associate Professor

Advance Practice Nurses
- Jayne Camporeale, RN, MSN, APN
- Dorothy Pierce, RN, MSN, APN

Radiation Cancer Biology
- Zhiyuan Shen, MD, PhD
  Associate Professor and
  Chief, Radiation Cancer Biology
- Bing Xia, PhD
  Assistant Professor

Clinical Services at RWJUH
- Rich Ragovin, BS
  Director
- Jiselle Nater
  Operations Manager
- Scott Barnes
  Chief of Dosimetry
- William Withereup
  Chief Therapist
- Sushma Patel
  Assistant Chief Therapist
- Riham Davis
  Dosimetrist
- Theresa Singley, RN
  Nurse
- Jacqueline Tull, RN
  Nurse
- Carie Strauss
  Therapist
- Krystin Greene
  Therapist
- Ann Marie Maisel
  Therapist
- Mary Kazio
  Therapist
- Susan Resavy
  Therapist
- Lillian Hosein
  Therapist
- Melissa Marek
  Therapist
- Mohammed Anjum
  Therapist
- Kevin Sinn
  Therapist
- Brenda Adell
  Medical Biller
- Gladys Torres
  Medical Biller
- Terry Bieleski
  Medical Biller
- Shelly Muhammad
  Clerical Coordinator
- Melissa Morales
  Clerical
- Azalia Laguna
  Clerk
- Jenise Bell
  Tech Assistant
- Tonya Sharpe
  Receptionist

Academic Administration at RWJMS and CINJ
- Sharda Kohli, MBA
  Clinical Department Administrator
- Jo-Ella McClinton
  Management Assistant
- Odalis Sanchez
  Secretary I
- Rosa Schweighardt
  Secretary II

New Satellite Office Opens at Raritan Bay Medical Center at Old Bridge

In November the department of Radiation Oncology at UMDNJ—Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and the Cancer Institute of New Jersey and Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital officially opened a satellite office Raritan Bay Medical Center at old Bridge.

The new satellite office aims to provide cancer treatment information to northern Middlesex County residents and those in surrounding areas.

Radiation Oncology physicians that will be on-site are:

Bruce G. Haffty, M.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Radiation Oncology at UMDNJ—Robert Wood Johnson Medical School; Chair, Radiation Oncology at CINJ; and Chief, of Radiation Oncology at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School; Radiation Oncologist at CINJ; and Attending Physician at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.

Salma K. Jabbour, M.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology at UMDNJ—Robert Wood Johnson Medical School; Radiation Oncologist at CINJ; and attending physician at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.

Outpatient consulting services are offered in the Medical Arts Building, Suite 409, One Hospital Plaza, in Old Bridge. Office Hours are Monday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Appointments can be made by calling 732.360.0817.