



# The professional and organisational impact of the consultant therapeutic radiographer: a case study

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Leading the way

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*This poster will explore the development of the consultant therapeutic radiographer role and consider the professional and organisational impact*

## Introduction

In therapeutic radiography there has been a drive for improving the “patient’s experience of care” on the cancer pathway. One poignant example is the creation of the consultant therapeutic radiographer to not only improve patient care, but also to improve working systems, and provide role development/expansion amongst therapeutic radiographers.

Consultant practitioners are required to demonstrate four roles:

- clinical expertise,
- education training & development,
- professional leadership,
- service development & research.

The vision of the consultant therapy radiographer is to effectively complement and be in partnership with the medical and healthcare staff in providing appropriate care and also making justified clinical decisions whilst developing and potentially improving services within a radiotherapy setting.

## Aim

Explore the notion of consultant practice through the perspectives of the consultant therapy radiographers themselves and the medical, nursing and therapeutic staff with whom they work, by means of a using a exploratory case study approach

## Participants

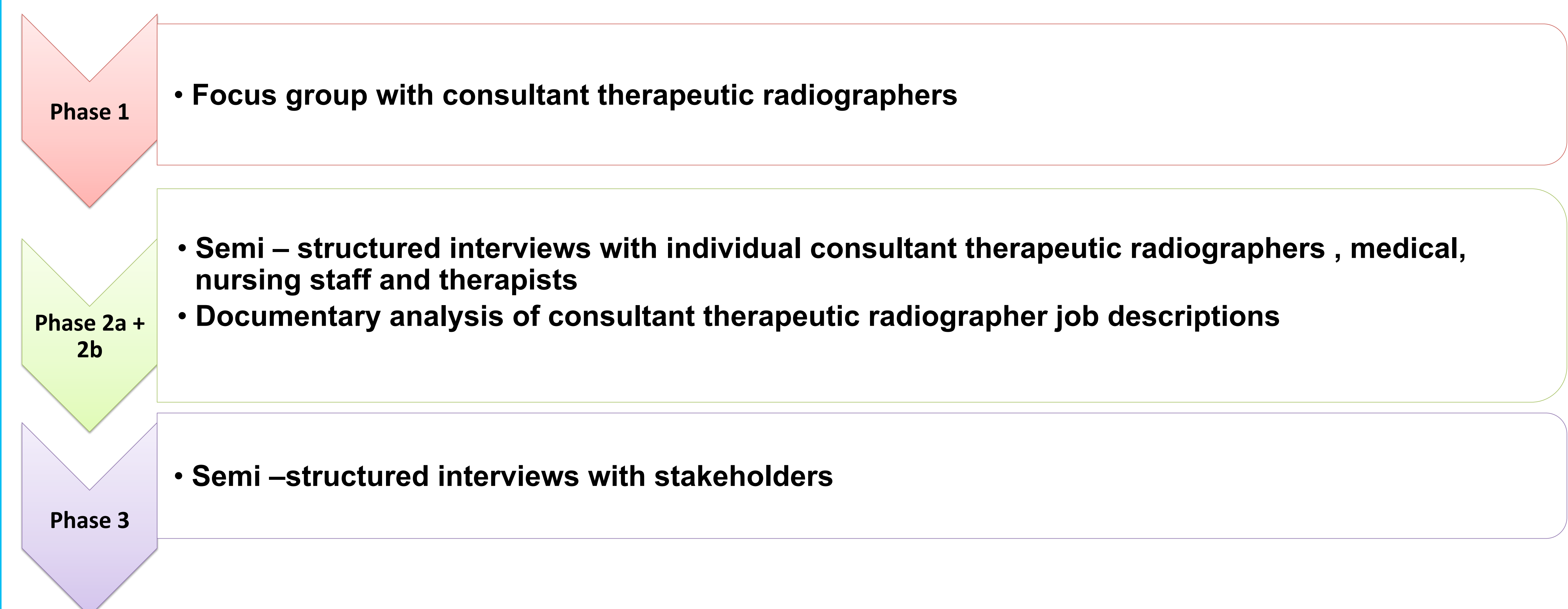
Focus groups and semi structured interviews were held with:

- 6 Consultant Therapeutic Radiographers across the UK
- 18 Medical and healthcare staff who work alongside the consultant therapeutic radiographers (clinical oncologists, specialists registrars, nurses, therapists)
- 6 Stakeholders (representatives including SCoR, NHS England)

## Conclusion

Overall the developed case studies from the thoughts, views and opinions of the participants have demonstrated that the consultant therapeutic radiographer role does in fact provide both organisational and professional impact.

## Method – phased approach to develop the case studies



## Results – extracts indicating impact across the developed case studies

Professional impact	Organisational impact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Increased career opportunities</b> <i>“I think it’s actually good idea and it’s nice to see them developed. And I think its one thing is given the radiographer more opportunity.”</i></li><li>• <b>Aids in motivating staff</b> <i>“If you want to be more involved well there’s an opportunity. I think it’s actually very useful. Because you need to be able to strive for something”</i></li><li>• <b>Supports role development</b> <i>“There is support for this and role development in the department”</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Meeting service targets</b> <i>“The service is much more streamlined and it has made it so much easier, so that has been really good on the service provision”</i></li><li>• <b>Improves patient experience</b> <i>“I believe from a patient point of view it is a very good link between the oncologist and the radiographers and the presence has made a big difference to our patients”</i></li><li>• <b>Better working relationships</b> <i>“A very healthy working relationship mutually, we complemented each other and I think the team as well”</i></li></ul>

## References

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