



Where there's a will, there's a way: development and piloting of the oral examination phase of a national advanced practice certification process for radiation therapists in Canada

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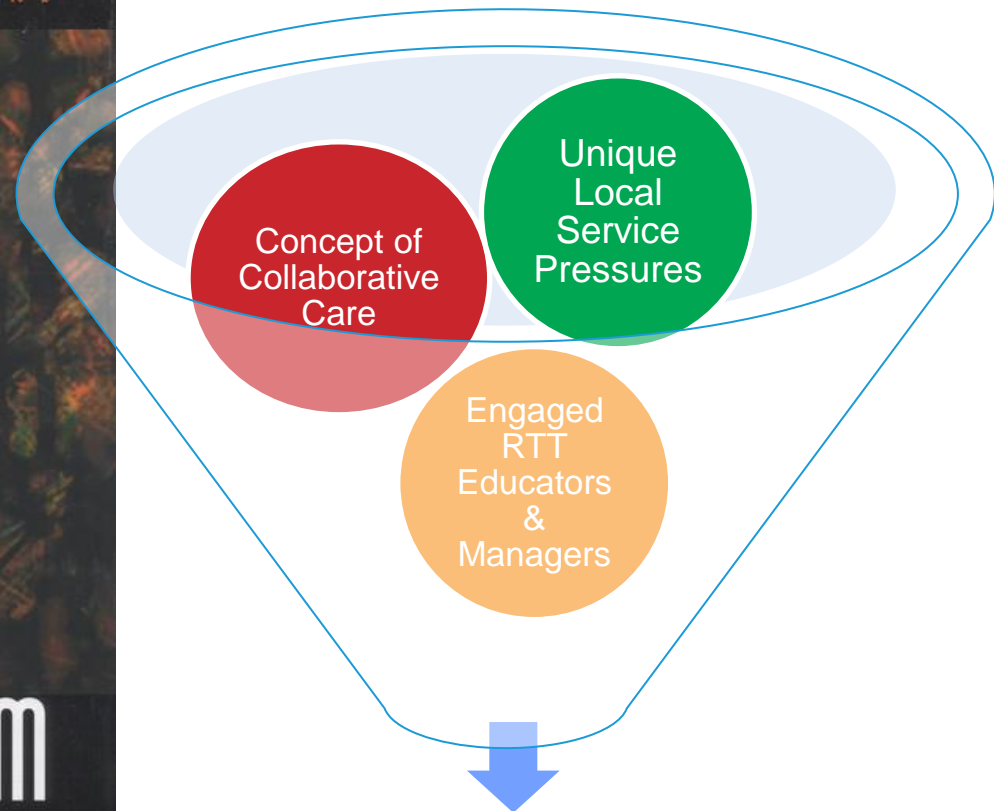
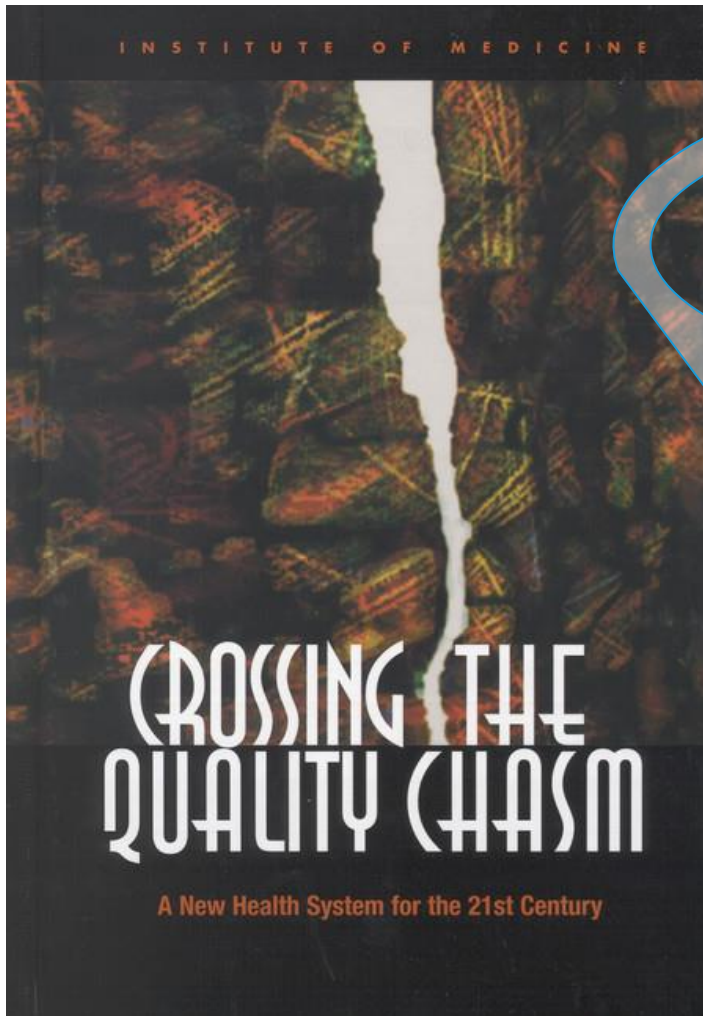
On behalf of the CAMRT APRT Certification Committee

September 10, 2016

Leading the Way: International Radiographer Advanced Practice Conference



The Will



**Advanced role opportunity for
Radiation Therapists in Canada?**

- *Clinical Specialist Radiation Therapist (CSRT) Project*
 - funded by Ontario provincial health ministry & overseen by CancerCare Ontario
 - Identified care delivery problems, explored new models of care & new scopes of practice, implemented and evaluated value to the system
 - Phases:
 - Development (2003-2006)
 - Demonstration (2007-2010)
 - Sustainability (2010-2013)
 - 28 AP positions explored across 10 cancer centres

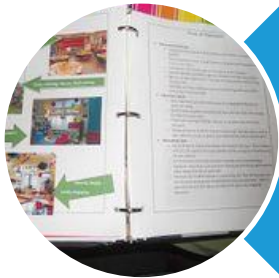


The Way

- *CAMRT APRT Certification Committee*
 - Engagement of national partner; part of strategic plan
 - Climate in radiation therapy community suggested value in pursuing certification for this group
- Tasks
 - External validation of competency profile
 - Development, blueprinting, & piloting of certification process



Certification Process



Phase 1:
Professional Portfolio



Phase 2:
Case Submissions



Phase 3:
Oral Examination

Oral Examination



Objectives & Considerations

Content

- Evaluation across all competency domains:
 - Clinical, Technical, Professional
- Relevance across jurisdictions

Format

- Case based
- High fidelity
- Accessible – virtual/online

Assessment

- Reliable, valid & defensible
- Engage appropriate expertise

Format / Content

Running Time	Duration	PALLIATIVE EXAM Element		Participants
10:30-10:45	0:15	Set-Up	Login / Testing	All
10:45-11:05	0:20	Oral Exam	Portfolio Defense I	All
11:05-12:20	1:15		Palliative Case 1 (Primary Case)	All
12:20-12:35	0:15		BREAK	•
12:35-11:20	0:45		Palliative Case 2-4 (Secondary Cases)	All
1:20-1:50	0:30		Portfolio Defense II	All
3 hours + 1 hour	1:00	Debrief	Assessment / Scoring	Examiners & Moderator

- Cases

- Real cases - ‘typical, but with some unique nuance’
- Mapped against competency profile
- Embedded in case narrative

C4: Assess patient's emotional condition

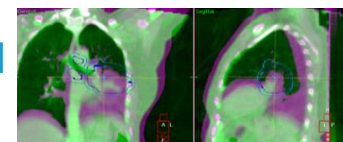


Patient's mother notes that pt's concern regarding fertility with H&N treatment has caused her to lose significant sleep, and she is expressing signs of depression. How do you explore this with the patient?

T2: Implement clinical decisions by interpreting & integrating available imaging and clinical information



What is happening on this Day 3 CBCT, and how would you suggest the treating therapists proceed?



Resources


- Collected & anonymized resources from clinical platforms
 - Clinic notes, imaging reports, lab results
 - Videos of treatment plan dose distributions, diagnostic imaging and IGRT imaging
 - Photos of lesions, radiation reactions etc

BONE SCAN REPORT (Mar7) [BACK to Case →](#)


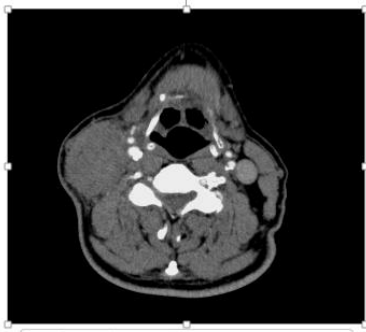
7 Mar 2011 **Bone Imaging**

REPORT (VERIFIED 2011/3/7)
WHOLE BODY BONE SCAN
Clinical indication: Lung CA
There is mild increase activity in the region of T5 vertebral body. The appearance on the bone scan is non-specific. Correlation with MRI recommended.
Patient has had bilateral hip replacements, but the remainder of the skeleton is unremarkable.
Impression of nonspecific increased activity in T5.


*Documented by: Dr VVV
Attending Physician: Dr TTT*

Advanced Practice
in Medical Radiation
Technology 

CT DATASET (OCT 4) [BACK to Case →](#)

00:13:05

Advanced Practice
in Medical Radiation
Technology 

- **Virtual**
 - Accessible to candidates & examiners
 - Low cost
 - Easily recorded for training, appeals etc
 - Innovative!



Format

Meeting

APRT H&N Oral Examination.zip

APRT ORAL EXAMINATION

HEAD & NECK SPECIALIZATION
2016

Advanced Practice in Medical Radiation Technology

CAMRT ACTRM

Attendees (8)

Don Yee, CAMRT Host 1, Donna

Hosts (2)

- CAMRT Host 1
- CAMRT IT Services

Presenters (0)

Participants (6)

- Don Yee
- Donna
- eric berthelet

Chat (Everyone)

CAMRT Host 1: Michael, can you hear us okay? I am not sure if we can hear you

Michael Evans: Yes

Video (6)

Stop

nicole

Don Yee

CAMRT Host 1

Michael Evans

Donna

eric berthelet

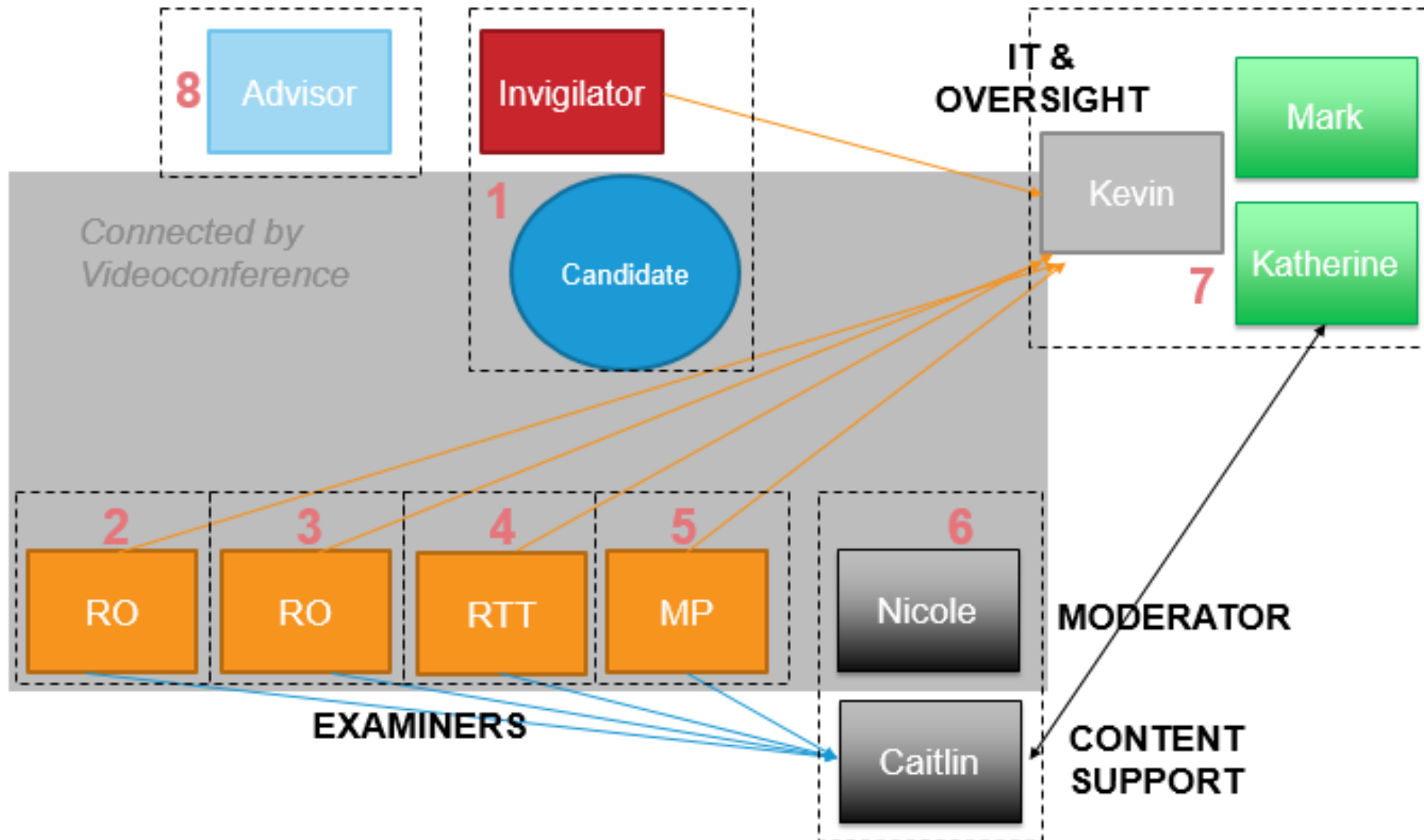
Files

Name	Size
H&N Oral Examination Guide.docx	447 KB

Download File(s)

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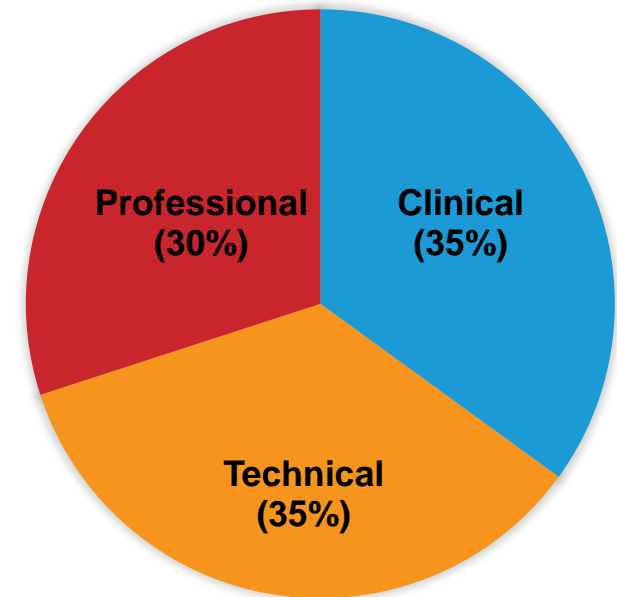
Assessment

- Scoring
 - 0-3 Likert scale per competency per question
 - Weighted overall according to blueprinting of domains

Question 4

As you and the RO determine that it is appropriate to terminate active treatment, how might you engage with the patient and family in shared decision-making in this regard?

COMPETENCY	ANSWER KEY (as a guide only)	N/A	0	1	2	3
Competency C3 <i>Assess and respond to the patient's emotional condition</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness of highly sensitive information being replayed and how to manage emotional response(s) Possible role for Distress Screening shortly after news is relayed Refer to psychological services 					
Competency C5 <i>Formulate an effective plan for patient care and/or treatment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore patient preferences & goals Discuss code status, advanced care planning, hospice care – ensure necessary supports are in place Acknowledge how treatment would do more harm than good at this point 					
Competency C7 <i>Communicate results that will impact patient's course of treatment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Candidate describes how sensitive information will be relayed to pt Importance of right time/right place/right message Ensure patient has family/friends present if requested Follow-up with patient (Frequency?) after news is delivered 					



Lessons from Pilot



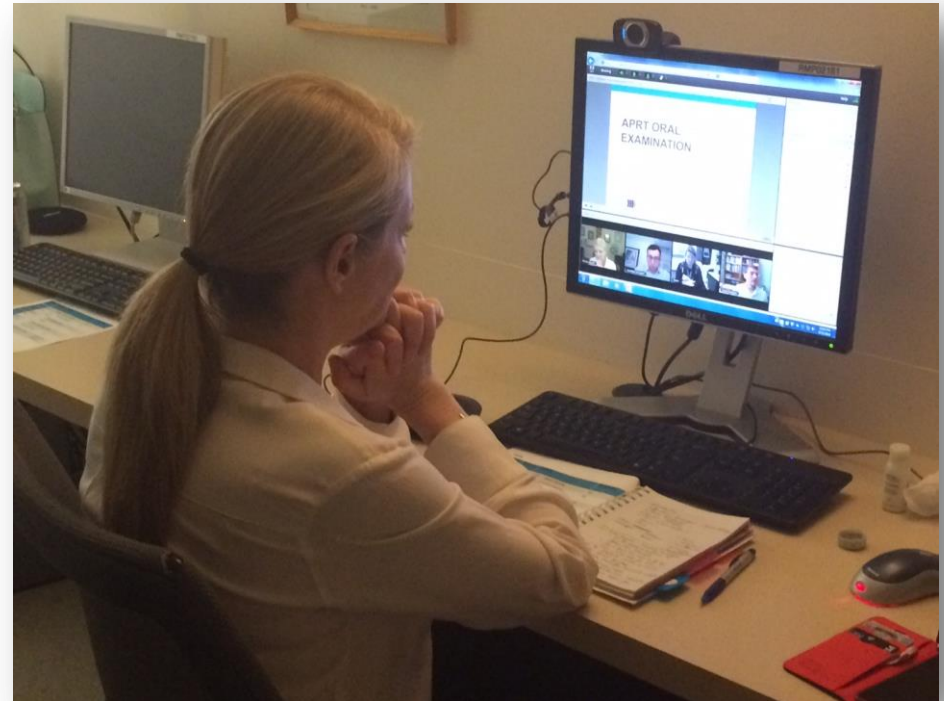
Lessons

- **Format**
 - Technology can be a nightmare – be prepared!
- **Content**
 - Clearer with candidates about scope
- **Candidate preparation**
 - Expectations
 - Examsmanship
- **Examiners**
 - Engage early & often
- **Assessment**
 - Bigger kettle of fish than expected!

Acknowledgments

- **CAMRT APRT Certification Committee**

- Amanda Bolderston
- Carol-Anne Davis
- Elaine Dever (CAMRT)
- Lisa Di Prospero
- Susan Fawcett
- Caitlin Gillan
- Mark Given (CAMRT)
- Nicole Harnett (Chair)
- Donna Lewis
- Katherine Smith (CAMRT)
- Marcia Smoke
- Christopher Topham (CAMRT)



- 4 CARO and 2 COMP examiners
- The 3 pilot candidates....