Residency Program Accredited for 5 Years

The Department of Radiation Oncology’s residency program was approved for the maximum time of 5 years with the next review not until 2013. Two additional resident slots were also approved bringing the approved complement to 8 positions.

In a letter to department faculty and staff, Dr. Haffty announced the successful review and congratulated and thanked those that were integral to the review process. Dr. Haffty’s letter in its entirety is printed below:

The residency program in Radiation Oncology here at UMDNJ-RWJMS/CINJ/RWJUH underwent its first formal site review for continued full accreditation on May 19, 2008. As you are aware, we are a new program, with our first residents entering the program in 2006. We are also the only radiation oncology residency training program in the State of New Jersey.

I recently received email confirmation from the Residency Review Committee that our residency program was given continued full accreditation, with an increase in complement to 8 residents. We were also given a review cycle of 5 years (the maximum allowed cycle time), with the next review in 2013. The approval for increase in resident complement to 8 residents and the 5-year review cycle attest to the strength of the program, compliance with standards, and overall success of our training program at this early stage.

Congratulations to all of you who participated in the review, and for your continued role in the residency training program. I would particularly like to acknowledge the efforts of Drs. Sung Kim, Associate Program Director, Sharad Goyal, Chief Resident, and Dallas Sanchez for their efforts in preparing for the review and working closely with the residents and faculty throughout the process.

Finally, a special note of thanks and appreciation to Jo-Ella McClinnnon, whose organizational skills and preparedness for the program overall, and particularly for this site review, was exemplary and contributed substantially to the successful review.

Department Hosts Book Signing Event

At the Jul 30 New Patient Conference, Radiation Oncology’s very own home-grown celebrity, Dr. Bruce Haffty, handed out signed copies of his newest release, Handbook of Radiation Oncology: Basic Principles and Clinical Protocols.

The book, which Dr. Haffty co-edited with Dr. Lynn Wilson of Yale University, is designed to be a resource for clinicians and covers general oncologic principles, workup, staging, and multidisciplinary aspects of treatment, basic principles of physics and radiobiology, and specific technologies including brachytherapy, radiosurgery, and unsealed sources.

UMDNJ-RWJMS/CINJ contributing authors include Molly Gabel, MD, Associate Professor, Sharad Goyal, MD, Instructor, Bruce Haffty, MD, Professor and Chair, Salma Jabbo, MD, Assistant Professor and Sung Kim, MD, Assistant Professor.

Delivery of the initial shipment from the publisher, Jones & Bartlett Publishers, was eagerly anticipated and provided reason for celebration as donuts and coffee were served while Dr. Haffty wrote personal notes of appreciation to each recipient of the volume.
**MILESTONES**
Radiation Oncology recognizes the following service anniversaries this month and thanks each individual for their dedication and team work:

- Alan Cohler, M.D.—3 years
- Salma Jabbour, M.D.—2 years
- Sung Kim, MD—2 years
- Bing Xia, Ph.D.—1 year
- Bruce Haffty—3 years
- Yi-Yuan Huang—2 years
- Atif Khan—1 year
- Rosa Schweighardt—2 years

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**Dr. Bruce Haffty Named ABR Fellow**

The Associate Director of The Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ), Bruce G. Haffty, M.D., who is a professor and chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, has been selected as one of 30 Fellows of the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology (ASTRO). ASTRO tabs itself as the largest radiation oncology society in the world, boasting 9,500 members who specialize in treating patients with radiation therapy. CINJ is a Center of Excellence of UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

Dr. Haffty of Franklin Township, who also is the chief of Radiation Oncology at CINJ and Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick, will receive the special designation at a ceremony at the Society’s 50th Annual Meeting taking place September 21 through 25 in Boston.

According to ASTRO, Society members are eligible to become a Fellow if they have been ASTRO members for at least 20 years, served in a leadership role for the organization and have made significant contributions to the field of radiation oncology.

Along with being the author of more than 200 articles, editorials and reviews, Dr. Haffty - who is internationally recognized for his clinical expertise in breast cancer and his clinical and translational research in radiation oncology - has edited and authored numerous books and book chapters. He also is a member of the editorial board of several medical journals, which includes his Associate Editor position of the Journal of Clinical Oncology. Dr. Haffty also was just named President-elect of the American Board of Radiology.

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**Call for speakers for Radiation Oncology Research Meeting**

We are seeking speakers for this year’s schedule for the monthly departmental research meeting. This meeting is the last Tuesday of the month at 4:30 PM. It is an opportunity for anyone in the department (or outside of it) to share their research projects or ideas.

These can be projects that you have completed and want to share or ideas in the formulative stage, that you might want input or advice on.

If you have interest in speaking, please contact Rosa Schweighardt at 732-253-3931 or e-mail rosa.schweighardt@rwjhu.edu to schedule a date.
Residents’ Room

Dr. Amar Rewari is the new GME representative from Radiation Oncology.

Dr. Rahul Parikh will be presenting a poster Ductal Carcinoma in Situ with Microinvasion: Prognostic Implications, Long-term Outcomes, and Role of Axillary Evaluation at ASTRO’s annual meeting in September.

Dr. Parima Daroui’s abstract entitled A Novel Paradigm in the Treatment of Oligometastatic Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer was accepted for publication by ASTRO.

Dr. Brett Lewis submitted an article, “Optimization of Couch Translational Corrections to Compensate For Rotational and Deformable Target Deviations in Image Guided Radiotherapy”, Yue, Kim, Lewis, Jabbour, Narra, Goyal, Haffty which was accepted for publication in Medical Physics.

Dr. Matthew Poppe continues his appointment on the ARRO board, and Dr. Brett Lewis continues to serve on the Evaluation Subcommittee of the Emerging Technologies Committee of ASTRO.

Residents will switch services on September 29, 2008. Services will continue as follows until Monday, January 5, 2009:

Team A: Haffty, Gabel, Dorothy Pierce, Sabin Motwani
Team B: Cohler, Khan, Jayne Camporeale, Rahul Parikh
Team C: Jabbour and Amar Rewari
Team D: Kim and Matthew Poppe
Newark: Cathcart, Razdan, Brett Lewis
Hamilton/Leave: Parima Daroui

The current resident on each service will dictate End Of Treatment summaries for all patients whose treatment ends on or before September 28th. Also:

1) The Physics course begins August 22, Clinical Didactic Lecture Series is already underway, and Radiation Biology will begin in September
2) Medical Oncology Fellows’ Lecture begins with a Journal Club by Dr. Evan Naylor on September 5th (article not yet announced).
3) An additional course has been added to our yearly lineup: Physics Advanced Practice Series, with a monthly lecture and hands-on project (mandatory for Physics Postdoctoral Fellows and strongly recommended for Radiation Oncology Residents). Each month will focus on a separate area of planning:

1) 2D, 3D Simulation, Planning, and Delivery  Rihan Davis  10/3/2008
2) IMRT Planning.  Rihan Davis  11/7/2008
3) TomoTherapy Planning and Delivery  Davis & Jaywant  12/5/2008
4) Physics QA, General and IMRT  Jaywant  1/2/2009
5) Radiosurgery  Jaywant  2/6/2009
6) LDR Brachytherapy, Planning and Loading  Narra  3/6/2009
7) HDR Brachytherapy, Planning and Loading  Narra  4/3/2009
8) TBI and TSET, Planning and Delivery  Yue  5/1/2008

And finally, Dr. Sabin Motwani became a proud uncle to Arjun Christopher Ograin on July 29th, 2008. Weight: 7lbs 12.oz. Height: 21 inches. Congratulations to mom, dad and uncle Sabin!

NEW RECRUITS

The department of Radiation Oncology welcomes Dr. Hao Wu, Research Teaching Specialist III, to Dr. Bruce Haffty’s lab. Dr. Wu received her Ph.D. from the Department of Pathology of Shanghai Medical University in China and joined CINJ in 2001. She initially worked in the laboratory of Dr. William N. Hait and most recently in the lab of Dr. Jin-Ming Yang, first as a postdoctoral fellow and then Research Teaching Specialist III. Her research interests focus on targeting the Multi-drug resistant gene MDR1 to sensitize MDR cancer cells to the chemotherapeutics drugs of MDR1 substrates. She is also interested in regulation of Autophagy and signaling pathway of Elongation Factor-2 kinase in cancer cells.

Welcome aboard!
Clinic Corner

The department hosted a surprise baby shower for Dr. Parima Daroui and her husband Reza Khalili on August 13. As a first time parent, and expecting twins (a boy and a girl), Dr. Daroui received a wealth of onesies, bibs, hats, receiving blankets etc. and is now well prepared for spit ups, leakage, and mealtimes. But she and her husband Reza are pretty much on their own when it comes to dealing with sleepless nights! We wish Parima and Reza a quick and painless delivery (a girl can dream!), healthy babies, and boundless happiness in the next phase of their lives! Thanks to Rosa Schweighardt for organizing the event and to Jisseelle Nater for arranging lunch.

The clinic hosted a Super Ice Cream Sundae on Wednesday July 30 for faculty and staff. It was an occasion for all to let their guard down, ignore the patient scale in the nearby exam room (which we all know is calibrated to show an extra 10 pounds!), and indulge in butter pecan, pistachio, chocolate, vanilla, and strawberry ice cream, just to name a few of the flavors. Sorbet was even provided for those who simply could not ignore that pesky patient scale! Many thanks to Rosa Schweighardt and Shelley Muhanand for organizing and coordinating this fun summertime treat.

It was lights, cameras, action as film crews and makeup artists generated a Hollywood buzz in the clinic on August 20. The Little Apple Films production company was on site to shoot footage to be used in a video profile of Dr. Bruce Haffty. While makeup artist Ruth applied shine serum to tame his tousled locks, Dr. Haffty joked good naturedly about his hair—or lack of it in certain areas! The eight hours of filming will be condensed to a 10 minute video which will be premiered at The CINJ Foundation's 13th Annual Award of Hope Gala and Benefit on October 4, 2008 at which Dr. Haffty will be honored with the 2008 Leadership in Patient Care Award. For more information about the Gala, please visit www.cinjfoundation.org or call 732-235-4956.

Radiation Oncology At Large

Participations/Presentations:
Bruce Haffty, American Board of Radiology-Summit on Practice Quality Improvement. Chicago, IL. August 2008
Bruce Haffty, Radiation Oncology RRC meeting. Providence, RI. July 2008

Applications:
Feng, Zhaohui, PhD, Komen Foundation $450,000. September 2008

Grants/Contracts:
Yue, N: Varian Medical Systems. Image registration between fluoroscopic image and (4D) CT images and its potential use in determination of radiation beam gating parameters. Total: $100,000.

Publications:

Abstracts/Posters:

Study Initiation:
Haffty, B and Goyal S. Feasibility of 3-D Conformal Accelerated Partial Breast Irradiation (APBI) for Early Stage, Node Negative Breast Cancer Patients using Acculoc Fiducial Markers: A Phase I Trial
UMDNJ Policy Update: Records Management

In 2005 The University entered into a Deferred Prosecution Agreement (DPA) with the US Attorney’s Office. A Federal Monitor was appointed to oversee the terms of the DPA. The University President prohibited shredding across the University in an effort to conform with the terms of the DPA and the ongoing investigation of the University by the Federal Monitor. In January 2008 the DPA and Federal Monitorship ended. However, the shredding ban remained in place while the University developed a comprehensive Records Management Policy including policy and procedures, training and compliance safeguards.

The Records Management Policy On April 15, 2008 the UMDNJ Board of Trustees passed a Revised Records Management Policy. The revised policy says that the University will follow State Records Retention Guidelines, train staff on the new policy, appoint Records Liaisons at each School, randomly audit shred bins to ensure that only non-records are shredded, retain and archive all necessary records and receive approval from NJ state Division of Archives and Records Management (DARM) prior to destruction of public records.

What is a Public Record? A public record means any paper, written or printed book, document or drawing, map or plan, photograph, microfilm, sound-recording or similar device, or any copy thereof which has been (1) made or is required by law to be received for filing, indexing, or reproducing by a government entity in the course of entity business, or (2) received and/or retained by a government entity in the course of entity operations. Records access guidelines outlined in the Federal Health Insurance and Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) supersede this policy.

What is a Non-Record? Anything that is not included in the definition of a public record. This includes: rough notes, telephone answer pads, stenographers notes after the information contained therein have been transcribed, non-UMDNJ brochures/literature, personal notes not prepared for transacting University or government business, materials pertaining solely to an individual’s private affairs; extra copies and duplicates, the use of which is temporary; unofficial copies of documents kept only for convenience of reference; extra identical copies of a public record; unused and blank forms.

Material that is not included in the definition of the public record may be disposed of at the discretion of the custodian or creator of the document, as applicable, subject to any other UMDNJ policy.

How should non-records be disposed? If the non-record contains protected health information (PHI) or other confidential information such as, personal financial or other personal identifying information, intellectual property or proprietary rights—dispose it in the shredding box for proper destruction. If there is no PHI or other confidential information—dispose in the recycling bin.

Records Retention Retention schedules summarize information about individual record series and designate minimum lengths of time records must be held in active and semi-active storage. UMDNJ must adhere to the record retention guidelines in (1) New Jersey General Schedule (2) New Jersey Four Year College (3) New Jersey Healthcare Facilities. Options for record storage include onsite, offsite archive storage, document imaging via University document imaging system, microfiche via NJDARM.

Records Disposal All records must be retained in accordance with the state retention schedules. When eligible for destruction, complete a “Request and Authorization for Records Disposal Form” which is available from General Stores. Authorization must be granted by the University Records Custodian and DARM.

Records Liaison Any questions, contact the RWJMS records liaison Joseph Bernasz (jbernasz@umdnj.edu) or Richard Wernoski (rick.wernoski@umdnj.edu).

Employees need to know what a record is and how long they are legally required to retain records. They need authorization from the University Records Custodian and the state (DARM) to destroy any records. Departments should purge records that have fulfilled their retention requirements on a regular basis, but only with the requisite approvals.

Open Public Records Act (OPRA) This act provides public access to all government records unless specifically or categorically exempted by statute, regulation, executive order or court decision. All OPRA requests are handled by the University’s Custodian of Public Records (Susan Glick: glicks@umdnj.edu) in conjunction with Legal Management and Media Relations. Should an employee receive a request for a document from an outside entity, they should forward the request to the University’s Custodian of public Records who will review the request and coordinate the process.

For more information visit the Records Management section of the UMDNJ Office of Ethics and Compliance website at http://www.umdnj.edu/complweb/index.htm.
Meet the players

Alan Cohler, MD
Instructor of Radiation Oncology

As he prepares to head off for summer vacation with his family on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, Dr. Alan Cohler is in a jovial mood—but he always is. He poses for a picture for *The Beam* in his total body protection lead apron—an original custom design by Cohler (he’s considering starting his own label).

“What do you use that for?” asks the intrepid Beam reporter referring to his body armor. Dr. Cohler explains. Back in the day, he performed cardiac brachytherapy to prevent restenosis of cardiac stents. The suit was necessary to shield him from the fluoroscopy, or x-rays, used during the procedure. The procedure is no longer performed because stents are now coated to prevent restenosis. But Dr. Cohler still had his suit of armor.

So when Dr. Salma Jabbour, Assistant Professor of Radiation Oncology, implemented a procedure to use microspheres labeled with the radioactive isotope yttrium-90 to treat metastatic disease of the liver, Dr. Cohler was prepared. “Since I had this THING, I brought it in,” referring to his lead apron. The procedure, radioimmunotherapy, is performed under fluoroscopy to aid in placement of the spheres. During the procedure, tiny radioactive yttrium-90 microspheres are implanted directly into the liver. The microspheres adhere to monoclonal antibodies, which in turn bind to cancer cells and kill them via intense beta radiation from the yttrium-90.

Radioimmunotherapy is one of Dr. Cohler’s many areas of expertise, but he also attends the lymphoma tumor study group, and the melanoma/sarcoma study group with Dr. Atif Khan, Assistant Professor of Radiation Oncology. In addition, Dr. Cohler performs total skin electron beam therapy for cutaneous T-cell lymphomas, a treatment option offered at no other facility in the State of New Jersey.

Yet the part of his job that he derives the greatest satisfaction from is working with the radiation oncology residents. For Dr. Cohler, molding the young minds entering the field of radiation oncology is extremely fulfilling. Seeing our residents grow into accomplished radiation oncologists as they progress through the training program and knowing that he helped to train these physicians is something Dr. Cohler takes great pride in. Working with the younger generation in our facility chock full of state of the art equipment is what Dr. Cohler finds truly exciting.

Dr. Cohler himself went to medical school at the University of Pennsylvania on a full scholarship from the Pennsylvania State Medical Society. He wanted to be a radiologist but after the mandatory rotation through radiation therapy during his internship in radiology he realized that radiation oncology was the path for him. He secured a residency position at Thomas Jefferson University (TJU), under the mentorship of Dr. Simon Kramer—a pioneer in the field of radiation oncology.

After he completed the TJU residency program Dr. Cohler accepted a position as a radiation oncologist at Abington Hospital near Philadelphia. He left Abington Hospital to open his own practice in Chalfont Pennsylvania with his partner Dr. Tulsky. After Dr. Tulsky’s death, Dr. Cohler closed the practice and accepted a position at Cooper University Hospital. He left Cooper to accept a position in radiation oncology at St. Peter’s Medical Center which was, at the time, a partner institution with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital (RWJUH) and the newly formed Cancer Institute of New Jersey (CINJ). When the collaboration between RWJUH, CINJ and St. Peter’s ended, Dr. Cohler joined the faculty of UMDNJ-RWJMS and CINJ at RWJUH.

Dr. Cohler and his wife reside in Bucks County, Pennsylvania in a house with a giant smiley face and the word “Smile” painted on the roof! They have three children and two grandchildren all of whom will be joining them on the family vacation in Hilton Head. Dr. Cohler can’t wait. He’s ready for the 14 hour drive, “My wife likes to bring a lot of STUFF,” he says. He’s prepared to do battle with traffic. He’s eager to enjoy the sun, sand and warm water. He’s excited to dine. But mostly he’s ready for a well deserved week of R&R.

- End-
### Clinical Radiation Oncology
- Molly Gabel, MD  
  Associate Professor and  
  Chief, Clinical Radiation Oncology
- Alan Cohler, MD  
  Instructor
- Sharad Goyal, MD  
  Instructor
- Salma Jabbour, 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
- Brett Lewis, MD, PhD  
  Co-Chief Resident, PGY-4
- Matthew Poppe, MD  
  Co-Chief Resident, PGY-4
- Parima Daroui, MD, PhD  
  PGY-3
- Sabin Motwani, MD  
  PGY-3
- Rahul Parikh, MD  
  PGY-2
- Amar Rewari, MD  
  PGY-2

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

### Clinical Services at RWJUH
- Shushma Patel, RTT  
  Director
- Jiselle Nater  
  Operations Manager
- William Witherup  
  Chief Therapist
- Ann Marie Maisel  
  Therapist
- Susan Resavy  
  Therapist
- Mary Kazio  
  Therapist
- Krystin Greene  
  Therapist
- Melissa Mareth  
  Therapist
- Lillian Hosein  
  Therapist
- Carie Strauss  
  Therapist
- Kevin Finn  
  Therapist
- Camille Taylor  
  Therapist
- Rihan Davis  
  Chief Dosimetrist
- Jacqueline Tull, RN  
  Nurse
- Theresa Singley, RN  
  Nurse
- Barbara Lee, RN  
  Nurse
- Brenda Adell  
  Medical Coder
- Terry Blekeski  
  Senior Medical Coder
- Shelly Muhammad  
  Clerical Coordinator
- Gladys Torres  
  Medical Biller
- Azalia Laguna  
  Clerk
- Melissa Morales  
  Clerical
- Tanya Sharpe  
  Receptionist
- Fatimah Ahmed Alfaraj  
  Visiting Researcher

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

### Radiation Cancer Biology
- Zhiyuan Shen, MD, PhD  
  Professor and  
  Chief, Radiation Cancer Biology
- Bing Xia, PhD  
  Assistant Professor
- Zhao Shuai Feng, PhD  
  Assistant Professor
- Jingmei Liu,  
  Research Teaching Specialist I
- Huimei Lu  
  Research Teaching Specialist III
- Jingyin Yue  
  Graduate Student
- Jinjiang Fan  
  Graduate Student
- Yi-Yuan Huang  
  Graduate Student
- Devora S. Schiff  
  Research Teaching Specialist III
- Jianglin Ma  
  Post Doctoral Fellow
- Cosimo Antonacci  
  Post Doctoral Fellow
- Hong Cai  
  Research Teaching Specialist IV
- Yanying Huo  
  Post Doctoral Fellow
- Neil Taun  
  Summer Fellow
- Camille Greene  
  Student Assistant

### Academic Administration at RWJMS and CINJ
- Sharda Kohli, MBA  
  Clinical Department Administrator
- Jo-Ella McInnon  
  Management Assistant
- Odalis Sanchez  
  Secretary I
- Rosa Schweighardt  
  Secretary II
- Rhonda Lyles  
  Secretary II
- Charmi Patel  
  Student Assistant

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**Contact Us**

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