Competencies of the therapeutic radiographer practising in the linear accelerator — Thematic analysis of the literature

MR JOSE GUILHERME COUTO (UM/UU)

DR SONYIA MCFADDEN (UU)

DR PATRICIA MCCLURE (UU)

DR PAUL BEZZINA (UM)

DR CIARA HUGHES (UU)





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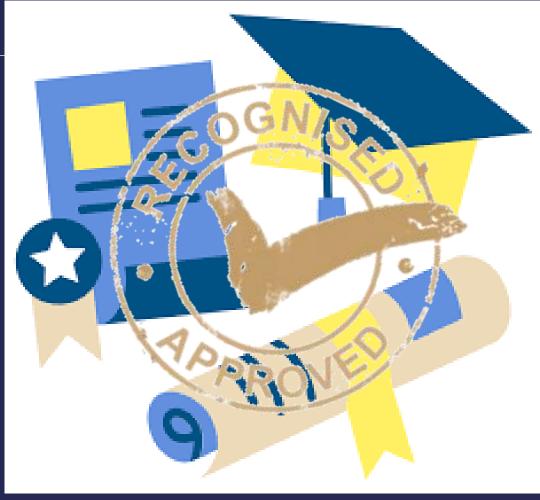


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Background





World Health Organization (2009)

Directive EC/2005/36

According to published literature, what are the competencies of the therapeutic radiographer practising in the linear accelerator?



Methodology

Academic search complete, CINAHL Plus with Full Text, MEDLINE, PubMed, ScienceDirect, ProQuest Education Journals, ERIC (ProQuest), Radiography journal, tipsRO journal

Systematic search of literature databases

- "therapeutic radiographer"
- o"competencies"
- "linear accelerator"

+ Synonyms

Guidelines and benchmarking documents
Snowballing

Results – relevant literature

Database search (n=114)

-14
duplicates
(n=110)

-88 abstract analysis (n=22)

+6
snowballing
(n=28)

Methodology

Identification of competencies in the literature

Thematic analysis

List of competencies

Verified by researchers and external experts

Results – Competencies list

Dimensions (themes)

Competency

QUALITY AND RISK MANAGEMENT

A total of 170 competencies organised in 16 themes

Mix of technical and non-technical ("soft-kills") competencies

Recognise the radiation hazards in the workplace

Conclusion

Multiple and complex competencies

Literature complements each other

EQF level 6

Pan-European
list ->
stakeholders

Safer movement & easier recognition

Better care for patients

Thank You!

jose.g.couto@um.edu.mt

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European Parliament, European Council, 2005. Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the recognition of professional qualifications [WWW Document]. URL http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LEXUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2005:255:0022:0142:EN:PDF (accessed 7.2.17).

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University of Otago, Wellington, 2014. Becoming a Radiation Therapist - What is it really like?. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EraKlnPYZfc

Competencies of TRs practising on the linear accelerator. IMRT/VMAT techniques are included due to extended use of this modality in current practice. Inclusion criteria: The statements in the literature were considered to be a "competency" when: The literature considered them as such or The literature identified that a certain task is performed under TRs' autonomy and responsibility (as per EFQ definition²⁹). Competencies specific to other roles of the TR (planning, CT, mould room, manual calculations). Competencies related to advanced techniques (SRT, SRS, adaptive RT, MRI-linac) **Exclusion** Competencies in veterinary radiotherapy criteria: Competencies developed in further education (above those required to practise) Non-English publications Publications discussing competencies from countries outside Europe