



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

07 February 2011

Royal College of Radiologists focuses on cancer patients on European Day of Radiology

The improvement of radiology and oncology services for patients is at the heart of the work of the Royal College of Radiologists (RCR), as it joins with radiology societies across Europe to celebrate the inaugural European Day of Radiology today, Thursday 10 February 2011.

Dr Jane Barrett, President of the Royal College of Radiologists, said, "We are delighted to be involved in the first European Day of Radiology. The RCR is committed to the improvement of services for patients, and covering as it does the two disciplines of Clinical Oncology and Clinical Radiology. We are focused on the development and improvement of cancer detection and cancer therapy. I hope that the European Day of Radiology will raise the profile of the Societies involved, and lead to even greater cooperation across Europe, aimed at providing the best possible services for cancer patients in curative and diagnostic services".

Dr Tony Nicholson, Dean of the Faculty of Clinical Radiology, said, "Diagnostic imaging is a core part of the pathway for cancer patients in terms of screening, diagnosis, and treatment, and the RCR is working on a number of areas to improve that pathway. The RCR's guidelines, *Making the Best Use of Clinical Radiology Services*, continue to be the benchmark referral guidance for helping clinicians, radiologists, radiographers and other healthcare professionals to determine the most appropriate imaging investigations for a wide range of clinical problems. The publication of the seventh version of the guidelines in 2011 will ensure this remains the case.

"We are very pleased to be working with the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) in the United Kingdom, to improve primary care access to diagnostic scans for patients. The RCR and the RCGP are working to identify which scans are most commonly requested by GPs. This will encourage closer working between radiologists and GPs, and thus speedier and more accurate diagnoses for patients."

Dr Adrian Crellin, Dean of the Faculty of Clinical Oncology, said, "The RCR is playing a key role in the development of the current and next generations of radiotherapy cancer treatment in the United Kingdom. A survey from Cancer Research UK (CRUK) in 2010 highlighted, once again, the need to improve access to, and waiting times for, radiotherapy services. It also focused on the importance of investment in new and sophisticated types of radiotherapy, including intensity modulated radiotherapy (IMRT), image-guided radiotherapy (IGRT) and Proton Beam Therapy. We continue to work hard with the Department of Health's National Cancer Director, and with organisations such as CRUK, to see these improvements delivered, and a world class service developed for patients throughout the United Kingdom".

Notes to Editors

1. For more information, please contact Dan Garbutt, RCR Communications Officer: +44 207 299 1138 (direct line), dan_garbutt@rcr.ac.uk.
2. On February 10, 2011, the anniversary of Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen's death, the European Society of Radiology (ESR) will for the first time coordinate pan-European press and PR activities to celebrate the 1st European Day of Radiology. The aim of the initiative is to give radiology as much publicity as possible and to raise awareness throughout Europe of the



ESR and its activities. For more information visit

http://www.myesr.org/cms/website.php?id=en/about_esr_eur/european_day_of_radiology.htm

3. The Royal College of Radiologists has approximately 8600 members and Fellows worldwide representing the disciplines of clinical oncology and clinical radiology. All members and Fellows of the College are registered medical or dental practitioners. The RCR exists to advance the science and practice of clinical radiology and clinical oncology through a range of activities. For further information, go to www.rcr.ac.uk