Course Directors

Firas Mourtada, PhD, DABR, is an Assistant Professor of Radiation Physics at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. His areas of expertise are radiotherapy physics, brachytherapy, and dosimetry.

Ann Lawyer, MS is a Medical Physicist in the Department of Radiation Physics at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center at Houston. Her areas of expertise are brachytherapy treatment planning, dosimetry, and quality assurance.

Continuing Education Credits

This course has been approved for continuing education credits by the American Society for Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) and the Medical Dosimetrist Certification Board (MDCB).

Special Needs

Individuals needing auxiliary aids or services as identified in the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact us.
Course Objectives

After attending the course lectures and participating in the tutorials and labs, the participant will be able to perform manual and computer dose calculations, perform radiographic source localization, plan a variety of interstitial implants, perform dosimetry for interstitial implants, perform dosimetry for the M.D. Anderson technique for intracavitary applications, and discuss brachytherapy computer dosimetry as it relates to practical case presentations.

Topics

Principles of Brachytherapy
- Properties of isotopes
- Source strength specification and calibration
- Dosimetry principles
- Paterson-Parker calculations for single plane, multiple plane, and volume implants

Interstitial Treatment Planning
- Source localization
- Preplanning implants
- 192Ir wire implants
- 125I seed implants

M.D. Anderson Intracavitary Technique
- Use of radium substitutes
- Linear source calculations
- Point source calculations
- Source localization

Afterloading Techniques
- HDR and LDR
- Ocular Melanoma Plaques
- Quality Assurance and Safety
- Radiation Biology

Cancellation Policy

The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center reserves the right to cancel any course less than one week prior to the course. Should circumstances make this necessary, fees will be refunded in full.

If registration must be cancelled by the applicant, notice must be received at least 21 days prior to the course. Tuition will be refunded (less a $100 handling fee). Later cancellation will incur retention of 50% of the fee unless the place can be filled from a waiting list. In this case, the full fee will be refunded (less the $100 handling fee). Once the course commences there will be no refund.

Applications and Questions

Applications and questions should be directed to the Short Course Coordinator at the address, telephone, fax, or e-mail below:

Attention: Short Course Coordinator
UT MD Anderson Cancer Center
Radiation Physics Dept. · Unit 547
1515 Holcombe Blvd.
Houston, Texas 77030
Phone: (713) 794-1364
Fax: (713) 794-1364
E-mail: esiller@mdanderson.org

Information regarding local accommodations and transportation will be sent upon receipt of application.

Class size is limited to the first 20 applicants.