

Part II Viva Questions – 2009

General Questions

In relation to the final management competency – what do you understand by the terms “financial accountability” and “budgetary control”?

What do you understand by the term “Quality system”? What are the advantages and disadvantages of such a system? What do you know about the “Beatson Incident”? They had a quality system in place, so how did it still happen?

You have Varian and Elekta linacs, if you were opening a new centre, would you buy Varians or Elektas and why? Why are Varian linacs better for IMRT?

What groups of people are covered by IRR99 and IRMER? Who are the IRMER duty holders? Which role do you operate as? Any others? What about when you request a repeat CT scan for planning purposes?

What is the dose limit for patients?

What level of overdose is reportable? Where do these limits come from? Who would it be reportable to?

What is a definitive calibration? Where is it described? When are they done?

How do you do independent MU calculations for TBI? And for EBRT? What is the main limitation of IMSURE? Does this lead to over- or under-estimation of MUs?

What procedure do you use for TBI? How do you shield the lungs?

How do you determine the ion recombination correction factor to be used in Roos chamber intercomparison?

Questions specific to portfolio

What are the advantages and disadvantages of Helical Tomotherapy? What set of patients is it not suitable for? (breast) Can you do a definitive calibration on such a unit? (couldn't but should be able to soon)

With respect to section 3.2.3 Back-up jaws: What procedures have been put in place following this incident? What do you mean by “in-tolerance” for flatness and symmetry measurements?

What happened at the IMPORT low Trial QA visit? What were the results?

How can you use the LQ model to combine HDR and EBRT doses? Where do the a/b values come from? What is the significance of the larger dose per fraction (given by HDR relative to EBRT) for tumour control vs. normal tissue complication? And what about for the case of prostate cancer? (Re. Appendix V) Is there an error in the bottom equation, should it have a factor of 2? – No!!

When are prostate patients given permanent seed brachy rather than HDR?
Do HDR patients have EBRT as well? (Re. Appendix I)

What registration algorithm do you use for registering MRI and CT images?
(Re. Section 3.5.3)

What causes the artefacts in the ultrasound images for prostate HDR? (Re.
Appendix H)