

## CTRad bulletin

### Clinical trials workshop, London, February 2013

- Following from a highly successful clinical trials workshop in Leeds last year, CTRad delivered a second well-attended workshop in London organised by Emma Hall and Chris Nutting (WS3). The programme included developing the scientific question, sample size and statistical rationale in clinical trial design, Radiotherapy Trials Quality Assurance (RTTQA), and the importance of Clinical Studies Group (CSG) portfolio fit. An insightful talk by one of CTRad's consumer members laid out the consumers' desire and willingness to help with improving the quality of trials, and how to engage with consumers at a very early stage in trial idea development. There was also a talk to help delegates understand the roles and responsibilities of a chief investigator, and presentations from funders including a CR-UK presentation on recent restructuring of committees, and funding opportunities with the NIHR.
- Using specific clinical trial examples, delegates joined two of three interactive breakout groups to explore issues around selection of appropriate trial design, endpoint and practical considerations.
- Delegates, especially trainees, found the workshop useful in addressing the issues around setting up and designing a radiotherapy clinical trial.



### New CTRad Deputy appointed

- CTRad is delighted that following a competitive recruitment process, Anthony Chalmers (WS2) has been appointed to the role of CTRad Deputy Chairman from April 2013.
- We are currently recruiting for a WS2 clinical oncology co-chair to be drawn from the membership of CTRad to ensure continuity.

### Radiobiology consortium

- Several CTRad leaders (WS1, WS2 and representatives) met with CR-UK senior leaders about potentially putting together a radiobiology consortium. As pre-clinical work is expensive, specific money for research will be needed. If CTRad can invite different labs to contribute some time and resources as a network, to demonstrate it is possible to get foundation data rapidly for proof of concept for projects that would otherwise not go ahead, this has the potential to encourage more funding of radiobiology projects. Discussion is on-going about aims and opportunities.

### **Submit your proposal ideas now for the June 2013 proposals guidance meeting**

- CTRad has so far reviewed 102 proposals and 15 of these have been funded through nationally competitive funding streams or local funding sources. To receive expert input before submitting your application for funding application, submit your proposal ideas now to present at one of the discussion groups on 10 June 2013 in London.
- Deadline for submission of proposals is **4pm on Thursday 4 April 2013**. For information on how to submit a proposal idea for presenting, please visit the CTRad website to download the template: [www.ncri.org.uk/ctrad/res/guidance/](http://www.ncri.org.uk/ctrad/res/guidance/)

### **NCRI Cancer Conference, Liverpool, 3–6 November 2013**

- This year the NCRI Cancer Conference will again be working with the Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) with a special day of sessions on Tuesday 5 November. Let your colleagues know and encourage them to submit an abstract from **2 April**. You can also register for the Conference from **15 April**.

### **Contact us**

If you have any feedback, news you want to share, or want to find out more about topics mentioned above, please contact the CTRad Secretariat ([CTRad@ncri.org.uk](mailto:CTRad@ncri.org.uk)). You can also browse the CTRad web pages [www.ncri.org.uk/ctrad](http://www.ncri.org.uk/ctrad) for more information and future dates of CTRad events.