

CTRad bulletin

Joint SABR Consortium – CTRad SABR workshop, February 2014



- The UK SABR (Stereotactic Ablative Body Radiotherapy) Consortium is a large multi-disciplinary group that is working to introduce SABR treatment across the UK. One of the Consortium's fundamental aims is to encourage and support SABR research.
- There are currently no national SABR studies in the UK. CTRad and the SABR Consortium's Research group organised a joint workshop in Leeds to provide a discussion forum for researchers, and to promote collaboration between research groups. The morning focussed on laying the foundations to incorporating translation research into SABR studies, with presentations linking SABR with novel agents, immunological agents and imaging; the afternoon showcased three SABR studies in development, with a discussion session to help the chief investigators refine their plans.
- The meeting was attended by members of the SABR Consortium, CTRad, consumer groups, the RTTQA group and industrial representatives. Plans to convert a single-centre industry-sponsored trial into a multi-centre SABR study and participation in international studies will allow recruitment into SABR studies in 2014, while the UK investigator-led studies seek funding.
- Delegates also discussed the development of a national SABR database. The SABR Consortium centres (currently 21 active centres) share a common treatment protocol which is starting to give significant outcome data in individual centres which, when combined into a national dataset, could serve as a template for commissioning by outcome.



Radiotherapy trial update

- **RAPPER recruits its 6000th patient:** RAPPER (Radiogenomics: Assessment of Polymorphisms to Predict the Effects of Radiotherapy) recruited its 6000th patient in February 2014. RAPPER collects blood samples mainly from patients enrolled in national radiotherapy trials. It is currently open in 43 of the 67 UK radiotherapy centres and 15 additional follow-up centres. Ethics approval was obtained at the end of 2013 to increase target recruitment from 6000 to 9950. Thank you from the RAPPER team for helping to keep the project moving.

Receive expert input at the May 2014 proposals guidance meeting

- CTRad is again calling for radiotherapy proposal ideas that you want to share at one of the discussion groups on 21 May 2014 in London, where CTRad experts will be available to provide constructive feedback before you submit your application for funding; many of the previous presenters have found the process very useful.
- Deadline for submission of proposals is **4pm on Friday 21 March 2014**. 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
- If you are unable to make the deadline or require offline advice on your protocol at any time of the year, you can access the RADCAS service. You can email the CTRad Secretariat or find out more from the CTRad website: www.ncri.org.uk/ctrad/res/radcas

Forthcoming meetings

- **Radiotherapy physics grants application workshop, 3 July 2014**: CTRad WS4 is organising a workshop to assist individuals who want to gain competitive research funding in radiotherapy physics research. The day will be a combination of presentations from those who have been successful in obtaining research funding, research funding opportunities presented by funders, and examples of strong collaborations between clinical and academic scientists. Registration details will be circulated shortly.

The 10th NCRI Cancer Conference, Liverpool, 2–5 November 2014

- This year, the Royal College of Radiologists will again be teaming up with the NCRI Cancer Conference with a special day of sessions on Tuesday 4 November. Abstract submission opens on **31 March** and you can register for the Conference from **7 April**. You can find more details on conference.ncri.org.uk.

CPD points

Most of our workshops and meetings are now CPD-accredited – don't forget to collect your certificate after each meeting.

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). You can also browse the CTRad web pages www.ncri.org.uk/ctrad for more information and future dates of CTRad events.