Beyond Bricks & Mortar
- Building Quality Clinical Cancer Services

PROGRAM

RORIC SYMPOSIUM
2011

The Sebel Albert Park
MELBOURNE, 10-11 August
On behalf of the Radiation Oncology Reform Implementation Committee (RORIC), it is with pleasure that I welcome you to the “Beyond Bricks & Mortar - Building Quality Clinical Cancer Services” Symposium 2011 in Melbourne.

This Symposium builds on the successful “Lessons Learned From Previous Oncology Related Capital Works Projects” Symposium held in July 2010. The next two days provide an opportunity to be informed by the experiences of other public and private providers and to learn about quality initiatives used in the delivery of cancer care. The Radiation Oncology Practice Standards, developed by the Radiation Oncology Tripartite Committee comprising representatives from the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists’ (RANZCR) Faculty of Radiation Oncology; the Australian Institute of Radiography (AIR); and the Australasian College of Physical Scientists and Engineers in Medicine (ACPSEM), are being launched at the Symposium.

I am pleased that Dr Norman Swan, a well respected health commentator, speaker and facilitator, will also be joining us for the Symposium. I anticipate that this will be an entertaining and informative two days. I hope you will come away with new ideas about different ways to approach your work that will benefit you and your respective organisations, and most importantly your patients.

- Dr Brian Richards, RORIC Chair

Background

The Commonwealth Government is investing $560 million in new or upgraded cancer centres in regional and rural communities enabling regional Australians to receive care closer to home and their community. This investment in infrastructure will have implications for the oncology sector. Once building works are completed, focus shifts to establishing and maintaining the delivery of quality care.

About RORIC

RORIC sits within the Australian Health Ministers’ Advisory Committee (AHMAC) structure. RORIC was established as an inter-jurisdictional forum to assist with national reform of radiotherapy following the 2002 inquiry chaired by Professor Peter Baume.

RORIC has three working groups to support reform priorities: quality, workforce and service planning. The RORIC Quality Working Group has undertaken significant work over the past five years to develop and implement a quality framework for radiation oncology, including supporting the development of Radiation Oncology Practice Standards and the trial of the Australian Clinical Dosimetry Service.

Why this Symposium?

During 2010-11, funding has been directed towards the establishment of new and expanded Radiation Oncology facilities in New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania. The new or expanded facilities will improve access to radiation oncology services for cancer patients in these areas and surrounding regions. However, the quality of service is determined by more than the quality of the building which houses the equipment used in the delivery of radiotherapy. This Symposium looks beyond the bricks and mortar by considering how the different elements of the cancer service system need to fit together to ensure that patients receive the highest possible standard of care and the best health outcomes.
### Symposium Program

#### Program, Day 1

**Wednesday, 10 August 2011**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>10.00am - 10.30am</td>
<td>Registration, Tea &amp; Coffee</td>
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<td>10.30am - 10.45am</td>
<td>Open &amp; Welcome</td>
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<td>10.45am - 12.45pm</td>
<td>Plenary Session: Strengthening, Connecting &amp; Supporting Cancer Care</td>
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<td><strong>Strengthening Collaboration to Improve Outcomes For Cancer Patients</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Professor David Currow</strong>, Professor of Palliative &amp; Supportive Services, Flinders University; Chief Cancer Officer and Chief Executive Officer, Cancer Institute of NSW.</td>
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<td>Improving cancer outcomes needs more than dedicated clinicians. Cancer outcomes can be improved by system changes including better coordination of services, data collection to define variations in performance and benchmarking processes to understand why these variations in outcomes occur. Through a whole-of-sector approach, improvement in five year survival are achievable using current knowledge implemented systematically.</td>
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<td>1.30pm - 3.00pm</td>
<td>Plenary Session: Establishing a New Service: Learnings From the Maternity Sector</td>
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<td><strong>Associate Professor Anthony Weeks</strong>, Director Clinical Services and Lead Anaesthetist, The Cradle</td>
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<td><strong>Dr Kate Willis-Sullivan</strong>, Quality and Policy Manager, The Cradle</td>
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<td>Anthony and Kate, co-founders of The Cradle, share their story of how they conceived, designed, raised capital (during the Global Financial Crisis), planned, built, registered, certified, accredited, staffed and commissioned a brand new women’s hospital in under three years. The end result of this roller coaster ride is a unique and innovative model of care and a new level of specialist maternity services not seen before in Australia. Although they set out to develop a maternity service many of the lessons they have learned along the way are applicable across the health sector.</td>
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<td><strong>Dignity &amp; Distance: A Consumer Perspective on Systems and Processes</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Dr Ian Roos</strong>, Chair of Cancer Voices Australia</td>
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<td>Cancer centres in addition to providing good clinical and supportive care need to have in place systems and processes that deliver a number of intangibles that contribute to the well being of people affected by cancer. These include: preservation of dignity, the provision of timely and appropriate information, support that enables good outcomes and the management of transition within the pathway. Overlaying all of these is the ‘tyranny of distance’ and the impact of this on our approach to the systems that are meant to deliver care.</td>
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<td><strong>Quality Standards In Australian Radiation Oncology: Time To Put On The “Yellow Jersey”</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Associate Professor Christopher Milross</strong>, Chair of the Tripartite Committee; Dean of The Faculty of Radiation Oncology, RANZCR; Director of Radiation Oncology, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital</td>
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<td>The Radiation Oncology industry has a proud and long standing tradition of safety and quality. We have only ever been able to do our job as a team - medicine, physics, therapy - all with unique and interdependent roles. The development of the Tripartite Radiation Oncology Practice Standards represents a culmination of a series of significant stages in our growth and development as a sector. We must celebrate this momentus achievement; and consider</td>
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<td>12.45pm - 1.30pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>1.30pm - 3.00pm</td>
<td>Plenary Session: Designing &amp; Delivering Quality Care</td>
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<td><strong>Models Of Care &amp; Regional Cancer Services</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Dr Stephen Vaughan</strong>, Director, Grampians Integrated Cancer Service</td>
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<td><strong>ACHS Clinical Indicator Program: Measuring Performance to Improve Outcomes</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Dr Jennifer Bichel-Findlay</strong>, Coordinator, Performance &amp; Outcomes Service, ACHS Clinical Indicator Program</td>
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<td>The Radiation Oncology indicator set was introduced into the ACHS Clinical Program in 1999, and is currently in its 3rd version. A working party of practising radiology clinicians, in addition to a consumer representative, a statistician and ACHS staff was established in late 2010 to review the indicators. The 4th version, to be available from mid 2012, will be discussed in relation to the proposed topic areas.</td>
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Program, DAY 1

Coordinating Care to Achieve Best Patient Outcomes
Professor Bruce Mann, Director of Breast Cancer Services for Royal Melbourne & Royal Women’s Hospitals, Professor of Surgery at the University of Melbourne, Director of Advanced Surgical Training, Royal Melbourne Hospital

Medical problems requiring complex therapy are difficult to manage in any system. Delivering this care in a regional centre poses extra complexity, with the natural desire of many patients to be treated close to home. This talk will explore the issues involved in delivering complex cancer care to regional patients.

Wednesday, 10 August 2011

3.00pm - 3.20pm  Afternoon Tea

3.20pm - 4.50pm  Plenary Session: Measuring, Monitoring & Coordinating Care

Quality Systems Assessment
Professor Clifford Hughes, Chief Executive Officer, Clinical Excellence Commission NSW

Coordinating Care to Achieve Best Patient Outcomes
Professor Bruce Mann, Director of Breast Cancer Services for Royal Melbourne & Royal Women’s Hospitals, Professor of Surgery at the University of Melbourne, Director of Advanced Surgical Training, Royal Melbourne Hospital

Medical problems requiring complex therapy are difficult to manage in any system. Delivering this care in a regional centre poses extra complexity, with the natural desire of many patients to be treated close to home. This talk will explore the issues involved in delivering complex cancer care to regional patients.

Cancer Link Nurses: Strengthening Support & Connecting Care
Ms Maggie Stowers, Cancer Coordination Manager, Barwon South Western Regional Integrated Cancer Service

A nursing model of regional cancer coordination has been developed in rural Victoria that supports patients, families and clinicians. Using a web-based system and video-conferencing, communication links between treatment teams are enhanced. Education and support at a local level is improving patient journeys.

Symposium Dinner

6.30pm - 10.00pm
Grand Ballroom 4 & 5
The Sebel Albert Park

Guest Speaker, Mr Michael Milton

Dress: Smart Casual
### Symposium Program

#### Program, DAY 2

**Thursday, 11 August 2011**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>8.30am - 9.00am</td>
<td>Tea &amp; Coffee</td>
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<td>9.00am - 9.15am</td>
<td>Recap from Day 1</td>
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<td>9.15am - 10.45am</td>
<td>Plenary Session: Using Technology to Enhance Quality Care</td>
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<td><strong>Advanced Technology in Radiotherapy: How Can We Ensure Maximum Benefits For Patients?</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Associate Professor Tomas Kron, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre</strong></td>
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<td>This presentation provides a brief discussion of IMRT and IGRT as examples for advanced technology in radiotherapy settings and an exploration of how these technologies can add to the quality of radiotherapy delivery. A summary of steps that need to be considered to ensure that the technology is introduced efficiently and safely will also be discussed.</td>
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<td>10.45am - 11.15am</td>
<td>Morning Tea</td>
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<td>11.15am - 12.45pm</td>
<td>Plenary Session: Managing &amp; Linking Cancer Care</td>
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**Building Roads To Quality**

**Mr Leigh Smith**, Chief Radiation Therapist, William Buckland Radiotherapy Centre, The Alfred Hospital

**Ms Jo Smylie**, Radiotherapy Manager, William Buckland Radiotherapy Gippsland

Alfred Health provides a radiation oncology service at Traralgon in Gippsland in partnership with Latrobe Regional Hospital. Two organisations, regime change, distance and a range of other issues ensure that providing a quality service in a regional area of significant need is an ongoing challenge, but a challenge that ultimately benefits both organisations and the people they care for.

**Experiences Of A Regional Radiation Oncology Provider in Queensland**

**Associate Professor Michael Poulsen**, Director Radiation Oncology Mater Centre Queensland

This talk covers important aspects impacting on delivering high quality radiation oncology services in regional areas including: being a provider for all patients in the region, both public and private; ensuring sound communication between stakeholders; minimising leakage of referral to maximise facility utilisation; and developing a brand name that is associated with quality radiation oncology services to attract and retain staff.

**Cancer Survivorship - Quality Care From & Beyond The Oncology Setting**

**Ms Cathie Piggot**, A/g Project Manager, Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre

The increasing numbers of cancer survivors and the chronic nature of the disease suggest the need to move away from a ‘specialist only service’ to the provision of survivorship care as a community responsibility. The Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre is engaging with people affected by cancer and clinicians involved in cancer care to develop tools and resources and to promote the principles of survivorship. The challenges for all health clinicians remain in implementing services that will optimise quality of life for survivors of cancer.
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session A</th>
<th>Session B</th>
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<td>12.45pm - 1.30pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>1.30pm - 3.00pm</td>
<td>Concurrent Session A: Capacity &amp; Innovation Building Innovation &amp; Expertise in a Remote Location: The Allan Walker Experience <strong>Associate Professor Michael Penniment</strong>, Deputy Director of Radiation Oncology, Royal Adelaide Hospital &amp; Visiting Radiation Oncologist, The Allan Walker Cancer Care Centre The steps taken at the Allan Walker Cancer Care Centre to ensure patients are given access to treatment equal to larger units in other major cities will be discussed, along with a short history of cancer treatment delivery prior to the centre opening. Building Quality Learning &amp; Professional Development Communities <strong>Mr Shane Dempsey</strong>, Senior Lecturer, School of Health Sciences, Faculty of Health, The University of Newcastle This presentation discusses the use of learning communities as a means to benchmark and develop staff education and support, and the implementation and appropriate use of technology in the modern cancer service. Learning communities shift the focus of learning (and knowledge construction and interpretation) from the individual learner to learning as part of a socially constructed community whose members can come from organisations who operate at large distances from each other. The presentation will demonstrate the use of online tools that can be used to provide a platform for online learning communities to develop. Changing Models Of Care To Meet Future Cancer Workforce Challenges <strong>Associate Professor Rosemary Knight</strong>, Principal Adviser, Population Health Division, Department of Health and Ageing An overview of some of the key challenges facing cancer services with a focus on innovative models of care to address workforce shortages and rising cancer rates with increasing consumer expectations in a tight fiscal environment.</td>
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<td>3.00pm - 3.20pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Tea</td>
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<td>3.20pm - 4.45pm</td>
<td>Plenary Session: Standards &amp; Assessment Within A Quality Framework Quality In Pathology: An Overview <strong>Dr Michael Harrison</strong>, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Partner, Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology Australian pathology has a long history of quality assessment measures and accreditation. Accreditation and standards setting commenced in the 1980s with all Australian pathology laboratories being accredited by 1987. Specific standards which are used in the accreditation process are developed by a legislatively defined professional committee system and the accreditation process for medical testing is undertaken by a joint program of NATA and the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia. International standards are also used in this process along with highly developed quality assurance programs and quality control measures used in laboratories. In addition, laboratories have quality systems which are also accredited. These processes have ensured that the Australian people are serviced by pathology laboratories, both public and private, which provide services at a reliable and good standard. Panel Discussion: What Determines Quality Health Care &amp; How Can We Measure It? <strong>Dr Michael Harrison</strong>, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Partner, Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology <strong>Associate Professor Rosemary Knight</strong>, Principal Adviser, Population Health Division, Department of Health and Ageing <strong>Associate Professor Christopher Milross</strong>, Chair of the Tripartite Committee; Dean of The Faculty of Radiation Oncology, RANZCR; Director of Radiation Oncology, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital <strong>Ms Sue Sinclair</strong>, General Manager Service Delivery &amp; Clinical Practice, Cancer Australia <strong>Professor Margaret Banks</strong>, Senior Programs Adviser, Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care</td>
<td>4.45pm</td>
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Development of the Radiation Oncology Practice Standards

The 2002 report, A Vision for Radiotherapy by Professor Peter Baume recommended a number of improvements to the organisation, delivery and funding of radiation oncology services in Australia. This report gave impetus to the development of a suite of standards for the radiation oncology sector as a guide to good practice. In 2005, the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR) commenced the development of these standards with support and funding from the Australian Government through the Department of Health and Ageing. In 2007 the Tripartite Standards Working Group, whose members are drawn from the RANZCR Faculty of Radiation Oncology; the Australian Institute of Radiography (AIR); and the Australasian College of Physical Scientists and Engineers in Medicine (ACPSEM) undertook further drafting work to produce a suite of standards for trialling.

In 2009, the National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia (NATA) was engaged to trial the draft suite of practice standards with a small number of radiation oncology facilities. The data collection phase of the trial was completed in late 2010. Overwhelmingly the results of the Trial were very positive. The general consensus was that the standards represented good clinical practice, were not onerous and were a sound guide for the provision of safe, quality radiation oncology services. No substantive changes to the standards were identified, with suggested changes generally editorial in nature.

Following the Trial, the standards were finalised and a Supplementary Guide, aimed at supporting the interpretation and subsequent implementation of the requirements by practices, was developed.

The finalisation of the Radiation Oncology Practice Standards is a significant achievement and a key element of the quality framework for Radiation Oncology. The development of the standards over many years would not have been possible without the commitment of the Tripartite Committee and the energy and enthusiasm of the radiation oncology community. The involvement of those practices that willingly volunteered to participate in the Trial was also integral to the finalisation of the standards. The time and effort displayed is demonstrative of an industry that is committed to and enthusiastic about continual quality improvement.

As with all important initiatives of this nature, the development and assembly of the nuts and bolts that make up a complex system comes down to the innovation, dedication and resourcefulness of a core group of individuals who willingly give up their time to share their knowledge and expertise. On behalf of RORIC, I commend and especially thank the following individuals who have been instrumental in the development and finalisation of the standards and the supporting Supplementary Guide.

- Dr Brian Richards, RORIC Chair

Mr Leigh Smith
Leigh is the Chief Radiation Therapist at Alfred Health in Melbourne. In the early 2000’s Leigh was a member of the Tripartite Committee and part of the group that produced the National Strategic Plan for Radiation Oncology (2001) that in turn gave rise to the influential Baume Report of 2002. He has continued to be involved with the Tripartite Committee and also currently chairs the Quality Working Group under the auspices of the Radiation Oncology Reform Implementation Committee (RORIC). In recent years he has been very involved with the development of the Radiation Oncology Practice Standards.

Dr Mary Dwyer
Mary was awarded Fellowship of RANZCR in February 2000 and has been working part-time at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre since October 2006. Mary’s areas of practice are breast and paediatric radiation oncology.
Mary is currently in her third and final term as a member of the Faculty Board (Radiation Oncology) RANZCR, and a member of the RORIC Quality Working Group. Mary has also been a member of the NSW Radiation Advisory Council since 2002.
Professor Eva Raik
Eva is a pathologist, haematologist and “quality in health” zealot. Eva was the Past President of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (RCPA) and the Past President and Chair of the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS). Also chairing the ACHS Standards Committee for approximately 10 years, Eva was a clinician surveyor and a member of the National Association of Testing Authorities’ (NATA) Medical Testing Registration Committee for approximately 9 years. She was closely involved with the establishment of the NATA / RCPA Laboratory Accreditation Scheme and surveyed the first laboratory registered under the Scheme and was the Director of the first public pathology laboratory to undergo voluntary registration. Eva is currently a member of the National Pathology Accreditation Advisory Council.

Dr Marjorie Pawsey
Marjorie graduated from medicine in 1969 and after working in health services research, balanced family life and the role of implementing the quality and accreditation program at Concord Repatriation General Hospital from 1979. She joined the ACHS as the Project Coordinator of the Charter for Change in 1994, the outcome being the program that is now known as EQuIP. Marjorie held an Executive Manager position at ACHS from 1995 with responsibilities for standards development, clinical indicators, accreditation services and surveyors. From 2003 she was involved in evaluation and research of ACHS activities until her retirement in 2007. She is a Senior Visiting Fellow, Centre for Clinical Governance, Australian Institute of Health Innovation, University of New South Wales and is currently participating in the ACCREDIT project that is continuing the research into health service accreditation.

Mr Anthony Arnold
Anthony is the Chief Radiation Therapist for the SESIAHS South Coast Cancer Network, Illawarra Cancer Care Centre (ICCC). Anthony has authored and co-authored numerous national and international publications on radiation oncology. He is a current member of the AIR Radiation Therapy Advisory Panel (RTAP) and Tripartite group. In recent times he has been driving the development of a national incident reporting framework within radiation oncology. Anthony has a strong quality focus on incident reporting, oncology information systems and service development in rural and regional sectors throughout Australia.

Professor Gillian Duchesne
Prof Gillian Duchesne is Executive Director of Radiation Oncology and Cancer Imaging at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne. She was a member of the Radiation Oncology Faculty Board of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists from 2001-09, and chaired the Tripartite Committee from 2005-2010. She participated in the writing group which developed the Radiation Therapy Standards from the huge input received from the Australian Radiation Oncology community. She is currently a member of Council of RANZCR and the Chair of the Scientific Committee of the Trans Tasman Radiation Oncology Group (TROG).

Associate Professor Tomas Kron
Since 2005 Tomas has been the principal research physicist at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and Honorary Professor at Monash, RMIT and Wollongong Universities.
Tomas has an interest in dosimetry of ionising radiation, treatment verification, image guided radiotherapy and clinical trials quality assurance. He has co-authored a radiotherapy textbook, edited a book on Radiation Protection in Medicine and published more than 130 papers in refereed journals. Over the years he has maintained an interest in education reflected in many invited conference presentations, consultancies for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the International Society for Radiation Oncology (ISRO), and involvement in workshops and training in Australasia. From 2008 to 2009 Tomas Kron was president of the Australasian College of Physical Scientists and Engineers in Medicine (ACPSEM).

The Radiation Oncology Practice Standards are being launched at the “Beyond Bricks & Mortar - Building Quality Clinical Cancer Services” Symposium 2011, and comprise 16 standards grouped into three sections.

Facility Management
1. Staff
2. Workforce Profile
3. Management of Radiation Oncology Patient Records
4. Data Management
5. Facility Infrastructure
6. Facility Process Management
7. Equipment

Safety & Quality Management
12. Safety, Quality & Improvement Processes
13. Radiation Safety
14. Incident Monitoring Program
15. Dosimetric Intercomparison
16. Clinical Trials Participation

Treatment Planning & Delivery
8. Radiation Treatment
9. Planning Procedures
10. Dosimetry
11. Radiation Treatment Facility

Copies of the Radiation Oncology Practice Standards will be made available on the following websites:
- www.ranzcr.edu.au
- www.acrasm.au
- www.acpsem.org.au
Dr Norman Swan

Host of the Health Report, on ABC Radio National and Tonic on ABC Television’s News 24 channel, Dr Norman Swan was born in Scotland, graduated in medicine from the University of Aberdeen and later obtained his post graduate qualifications in Paediatrics.

Norman has been Australian Radio Producer of the Year, received a Gold Citation in the United Nations Media Peace Prizes, has won three Walkley National Awards for Australian journalism, including the prestigious Gold, and Australia’s top prize for Science Journalism, the Michael Daly Award, twice.

On television, in addition to Tonic, Dr Swan hosted Quantum, and has been a reporter on Four Corners. He hosted Health Dimensions on ABC Television, and created, wrote and narrated a four-part series on disease and civilisation, Invisible Enemies, made for Channel 4 (UK) and SBS Television. This has been shown in twenty seven countries. He also co-wrote and narrated The Opposite Sex, a four-part series for ABC Television.

Norman Swan has been the Australian correspondent for the Journal of the American Medical Association and the British Medical Journal and consults for the World Health Organisation in Geneva. In late 2008, Norman co-chaired a global meeting of Health Ministers in West Africa which pursued the goal of making health policy evidence based and facilitated a follow up meeting in Singapore in October 2009.

He has worked with major cancer organisations in Australia, assisting them with developing strategies across the spectrum of services, from education through to research.

Mr Michael Milton

In April 2003, on the steepest slope in the world, Michael clocked over 193km/hr, smashing a 16 year old record and becoming the fastest skier with a disability. Every year after that he bettered his own world record until, in April 2006, he clocked a staggering 213.65km/hr to also become the fastest Australian skier ever.

A month earlier at the 2006 Winter Paralympic Games (his fifth Paralympic Games) Michael’s ski racing career came to an end. Under a new, tougher classification system, he won a silver medal in Downhill, achieving his goal to “...win a medal, any colour”. His ski racing medal count stands at eleven Paralympic medals (six gold) and eleven World Championships medals (six gold).

Michael then pursued a new sport: cycling. After six months of intense training, he not only won a gold medal in the 3000m Individual Pursuit at the Australian Track Cycling Championships in February 2007 but also broke the Australian record.

His dream to make the Australian team and compete at the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games was sidelined when he was diagnosed with Oesophageal Cancer in July 2007. He then made an amazing comeback from this serious illness to record times at the 2008 Australian Track Cycling Championships comparable to his results in the same events 12 months before.

On Friday 27 June 2008, Michael was named as one of the 18 athletes in the Paralympic Cycling Team to compete in Beijing. His sixth Paralympic Games and his first as a summer athlete, he arrived in Beijing less than 12 months since chemotherapy, radiotherapy and major surgery.
Beyond Bricks & Mortar
- Building Quality Clinical Cancer Services

Invited Speakers

Professor David Currow
Since 2000 David has held the Chair of Palliative and Supportive Services at Flinders University where there are more than 400 distance students studying at a post graduate level around the world and from a variety of discipline backgrounds. He has published widely in palliative care journals and the general medical literature. Among other projects, he is co-chief investigator on an anthology of evidence for palliative care practice and service. He also leads a national collaborative, the Australian Palliative Care Clinical Studies Collaborative (PaCCSC), running phase III studies for symptom control medications at a level that allows changes in registration and subsequent subsidy applications. Other research interests include the symptomatic management of dyspnoea, improving population based planning for people with life limiting illnesses and improving the evidence base around which clinical decisions are made in palliative care.

David has held grants from the National Health and Medical Research Council, the National Institutes of Health (USA) and the Cancer Council Australia. He continues on the Board of the International Association of Hospice and Palliative Care (IAHPC) and has been on the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) taskforce on palliative care education and is a senior associate editor of the Journal of Palliative Medicine. He is a former president of both the Clinical Oncological Society of Australia and Palliative Care Australia.

Associate Professor Jeremy Millar
Jeremy is the Director Radiation Oncology, Alfred Health, overseeing a radiation treatment centre at a major metropolitan University-associated hospital in Melbourne, as well as an associated service at a developing cancer centre in regional Victoria, in Traralgon. At the School of Public Health, Monash University, among other things he leads the Prostate Cancer Clinical Registry (www.pcr.registry.org.au), a collaborative Victorian effort to establish a population based registry designed to drive quality assurance and quality improvement in the care of men with prostate cancer. Between 2006 and 2008 he was the Director of the Southern Melbourne Integrated Cancer Service (SMICS), a Victorian Government agency charged - as part of the “Victorian Cancer Services Framework” - with reform and improvement in Cancer Health Service delivery in Southern Melbourne.

Dr Ian Roos
Ian is married to Pam and has two children and twin grandsons. He was the founding Chair of Cancer Voices and is the current Chair of Cancer Voices Australia. He has been a volunteer with Cancer Connect and is a consumer advocate. Ian was diagnosed with cancer in 1998.

Ian has served and is serving on a number of government bodies that address different aspects of cancer. Among these are the Victorian Ministerial Taskforce on Cancer, North Eastern Metropolitan Integrated Cancer Service, CanNet Victoria and the National Cancer Nursing Education Project, National Research Advisory Group of Cancer Australia, The Radiation Oncology Research Working Group of the Department of Health and Ageing and the National Cancer Expert Reference Group.

Associate Professor Christopher Milross
Chris is Head of Radiation Oncology in The Sydney Cancer Centre at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in Sydney.

A graduate of UNSW, Chris was an intern and resident at St George Hospital before training in Radiation Oncology at The Prince of Wales Hospital before undertaking a Fellowship in Experimental Radiation Oncology at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston Texas.

Clinically Chris has been active in the disciplines of Head and Neck Oncology and Gynaecological Oncology. He was a member of the executive of the ANZH&NS 2003 - 2008, and the executive of the ANZGOC 2006-2008. Chris has been Dean of The Faculty of Radiation Oncology, and a Councillor of The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists since 2009.

Dr Kate Willis-Sullivan
Kate is the Director of Quality and Policy for The Cradle. Kate studied medicine at Monash University, and completed an intern and residency program at The Alfred (1993 - 2002). Combining a fascination for aviation medicine and risk management systems with a love for clinical obstetrics led Kate to develop the Cradle model of maternity care. Conceived on a single sheet of A4 paper in 2008, The Cradle was opened in 2011.

Kate has since “gone to the dark side” and now spends most of her time working in medical administration and doing whatever needs to be done at The Cradle.
Invited Speakers

Associate Professor Anthony Weeks
Tony is the Director of Clinical Services and lead anaesthetist for The Cradle. After completing specialist training in anaesthetics, Tony was appointed Staff Specialist at the Royal Women’s Hospital. His interest in obstetric anaesthesia and analgesia continued while on staff at the Alfred and Sandringham Hospital as Director of Anaesthesia and Pain Management until 2004. He then moved to private practice with a strong emphasis on anaesthesia for obstetrics and gynaecology, returning to the Royal Women’s Hospital to continue involvement in teaching and training. Always actively involved in professional development, Tony was a Councillor of the Australia and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists and examiner for fellowship examinations. He is a Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists and a member of the Australian Society of Anaesthetists.

As a founder of The Cradle model of care and Director of Clinical Services, Tony’s responsibility is to bring the health professionals together, build teamwork and maximise the contribution that each can make to patients’ birthing experiences. He has a keen interest in developing systems where teams work together to optimise patient care. The Cradle embodies this: a dedicated maternity unit in a hospital with full facilities and no competition for operating time, where obstetricians, anaesthetists and paediatricians are all on site and working together.

Dr Stephen Vaughan
Stephen conducts a part-time practice as a Locum Consultant Physician in Haematology/Medical Oncology in various public and private clinics throughout Victoria, New South Wales and Tasmania. He has also worked as a consultant to the Health Insurance Commission on high-cost drugs and for the Department of Health and Ageing on Pathology accreditation.

Stephen was Chairman of Geelong Water Authority (Barwon Water) for eight years and a Board Director of the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre for six years.

He is Chairman of Cell Therapies Pty Ltd, a biotechnology company manufacturing cancer vaccines and was a Board Director of City West Water, a water supply company that services the CBD and West Melbourne, from 2005 to 2008.

Currently Stephen is a part-time Director of the Grampians Integrated Cancer Service (GICS), which is part of the Victorian Government’s “Fighting Cancer” initiative. He also works as an expert witness in the areas of cancer, blood and transfusion medicine.

Professional qualifications include a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery from the University of Melbourne. Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of Physicians (FRACP), Fellowship of the Royal College of Pathologists Australia (FRCPA), Member of the Royal Australian College of Medical Administrators (MRACMA) and Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (FAICD). Current associations include the Haemophilia Society, Thalassaemia Society, Haematology Society of Australia, Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (COSA), and Member of Medical Oncology Group of Australia (MOGA).

Dr Jennifer Bichel-Findlay
Jen is the Coordinator of the Performance and Outcomes Services within the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards, and is responsible for the clinical indicator program. She has qualifications in health informatics, mental health and critical care nursing, public health, and nursing education. She has been employed in the health service industry for over 30 years in a range of clinical, managerial, educational, evaluative and project management roles, and has had a long standing interest in clinician efficiency, patient safety and evidence adaptive health care.

Professor Bruce Mann
Bruce is a surgical oncologist with a main clinical focus on breast cancer. He is the inaugural Director of Combined Breast Service of Royal Melbourne and Royal Women’s Hospital, and also a surgical oncologist at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre. He has an enduring interest in cancer systems and their improvement, and was a foundation member of the executive of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Surgical Oncology Group and past Chair of that group. He was also President of the Clinical Oncology Society of Australia in 2009 and 2010. He is immediate past Chair of the Clinical Service Working Group of the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre, and a member of its Research Committee.
Ms Maggie Stowers
Maggie has a background in oncology and palliative care nursing and is the Cancer Coordination Manager for the Barwon South Western Regional Integrated Cancer Service based at Barwon Health, Geelong Victoria. Maggie was the recipient of the 2010 Jen Rusden Memorial Award as part of the Victorian State Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards, for the development and implementation of a new nursing model of cancer coordination, called the Cancer Link Nurse. The model aims to support rural cancer patients, their families and regional clinicians by improving communications between treatment teams and providing support, information and education at a local level.

Associate Professor Tomas Kron
Tomas was born and educated in Germany. After his PhD at the University of Frankfurt he migrated to Australia in 1989 to work in MRI research at the University of NSW. In 1990 he took up a position as clinical medical physicist at the Prince of Wales Hospital in Sydney and became Chief Physicist at the Newcastle Mater Hospital in 1993 after spending time at the Illawarrah Cancer Care Centre. From 2001 to 2004 Tomas worked at the London Regional Cancer Centre in Canada on the commissioning of one of the first helical tomotherapy units. Since 2005 Tomas has been the principal research physicist at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and Honorary Professor at Monash, RMIT and Wollongong Universities.

Tomas has an interest in dosimetry of ionising radiation, treatment verification, image guided radiotherapy and clinical trials quality assurance. He has co-authored a radiotherapy textbook, edited a book on Radiation Protection in Medicine and published more than 130 papers in refereed journals. Over the years he has maintained an interest in education reflected in many invited conference presentations, consultancies for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the International Society for Radiation Oncology (ISRO), and involvement in workshops and training in Australasia. From 2008 to 2009 Tomas Kron was president of the Australasian College of Physical Scientists and Engineers in Medicine (ACPSEM), the professional organisation representing medical physicists and biomedical engineers in Australia and New Zealand.

Ms Shoni Colquist
Shoni is the Manager of the Queensland Cancer Control Analysis Team (QCCAT), a state-wide service improvement team who facilitate the improved collection, coordination and reporting of cancer data across Queensland. Her role within QCCAT involves: leading the development of QLD Oncology Online (QOOL), a web based application specifically for facilitating multidisciplinary care and to capture clinical information fundamental to managing a cancer care service; coordinating the development of the Queensland Oncology Repository (QOR), a population based database containing demographic, incidence, cancer volume, treatment, prognostic factors and survival data; and the oncology Analysis System (OASys) which supports the routine reporting of an agreed set of clinical service improvement indicators, aggregate population data, comparative analysis, outcomes analysis and flexible querying.

Mr Leigh Smith
Leigh is the Chief Radiation Therapist at Alfred Health in Melbourne. Alfred Health operates The William Buckland Radiotherapy Centre at The Alfred Hospital in metropolitan Melbourne and a satellite centre at Latrobe Regional Hospital in Gippsland, Victoria. Leigh was The Alfred’s project manager for the development of the Gippsland centre which opened in July 2006 as part of the national single radiotherapy machine unit trial. In the early 2000s Leigh was a member of the Tripartite Committee (which brings together the three key professions) and part of the group that produced the National Strategic Plan for Radiation Oncology (2001) that in turn gave rise to the influential Baume Report of 2002. He has continued to be involved with the Tripartite Committee and also currently chairs the Quality Working Group under the auspices of the Radiation Oncology Reform Implementation Committee (RORIC). In recent years he has been very involved with the development of the Radiation Oncology Practice Standards.

In addition to his qualifications in radiation therapy, Leigh holds qualifications in health administration and health services management. He has a continuing interest in the planning of cancer services and has consulted for a number of groups designing radiotherapy facilities.
Invited Speakers

Ms Josephine Smylie
Jo has been involved as a Radiation Therapist in Radiation Oncology services for over 40 years. Her career has included both clinical and senior management positions at three major Australian public hospitals. Her current position is as a Radiation Therapy Manager at William Buckland Radiotherapy Gippsland, a satellite service of William Buckland Radiotherapy Centre at Alfred Health.

Her experience spans all aspects of operational service management in radiation oncology and various levels of policy and decision making in Health Care Management. Jo has been involved in the development of multiple new Radiation Oncology services including the development of two satellite radiotherapy services.

Jo has contributed towards many national and state reviews concerning the development of Radiation Oncology Services and the associated issues inclusive of: quality assurance; funding models; workforce planning; and research. Her level of contribution has varied from executive appointments, committee representation, consultancies and the provision of expert opinion.

Associate Professor Michael Poulsen
Michael is the director of Radiation Oncology Mater Centre (ROMC) in Brisbane as well as being one of the Directors of Radiation Oncology Queensland (ROQ), which operate regional cancer facilities in Toowoomba and Cairns. He has 30 years experience in public health as well as his four and half years experience in operating a private radiation oncology service.

Michael has a major interest in head and neck cancer, skin cancer and breast cancer and is actively involved in teaching and research. Over 90 articles and chapters have been published on a diverse range of subjects in radiation oncology. His experiences in the private and public sector in both regional and metropolitan settings gives him a sound footing in looking at radiation oncology practice in Australia.

Ms Cathie Piggot
Cathie is the Acting Project Manager for the Australian Cancer Survivorship Centre (ACSC), an initiative of the Pratt Foundation and the Department of Health, Victoria; and the Project Manager of the Supportive Cancer Care Victoria project, a state-wide project supported by the Department of Health, Victoria. Cathie has worked as a nurse researcher at Peter Mac since 2002. Other projects Cathie has managed or been involved with include the national Cancer Nursing Education Project (EdCaN), the development of the Peter Mac Support Care Needs Screening Tool and the C-Care project. Cathie has a background in palliative care community nursing and has been a registered Nurse for over 25 years and has been actively involved in professional cancer and palliative care nursing committees. Cathie has a Masters Degree in Primary Healthcare with a focus on palliative care, a Graduate Diploma in Science (pain management), a Bachelor of Applied Science (nursing), a Graduate Certificate in Project Management and is a Member of the Royal College of Nursing Australia.

Dr Michael Penniment
Michael is a Senior Radiation Oncologist with an interest in delivery of cancer services to rural and remote regions. He was a foundation consultant at the North Queensland Oncology service in Townsville in 1995. On return to Adelaide he commenced clinical services to the Northern Territory, Port Lincoln, Mount Gambier and Broken Hill. In 2008 he planned the Royal Adelaide Hospital’s first satellite centre at the Lyell McEwin Hospital and was the Director of Clinical Service Planning for the Alan Walker Cancer Care Centre in Darwin, which opened in March this year. He is Director of NT Radiation Oncology and continues to consult at the Centre and he is Deputy Director of Radiation Oncology at the Royal

He is involved in a number of national and international research projects, in particular in the areas of improving indigenous cancer care, quality of life in cancer treatment and the role of psychological testing in the selection of ideal candidates for medical specialist training.

Dr Ivan Williams
Ivan has fourteen years experience as a professional medical physicist, initially at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, the largest radiation oncology centre in Australia. Interspersed with his early clinical work he obtained a MSc (Research) in physics from the University of Melbourne by designing, building and testing a parallel-plate ionisation chamber. Between 2004 and 2008 Ivan was attracted back into full-time research. Supervised by Professor Rob Lewis at Monash University he completed his PhD on “Optimisation of Phase Contrast Imaging in Mammography”. Ivan then left Australia for Ireland to take up a Principal Physicist position at St Luke’s Hospital, Dublin. He left Ireland in 2010 as Acting head of the Department of Physics at St Luke’s Hospital to be the inaugural Director of the Australian Clinical Dosimetry Service.
Invited Speakers

Mr Shane Dempsey
Shane is currently Program Convenor of the three medical radiation science degrees at the University of Newcastle, Australia, and he chairs the School of Health Sciences Teaching and Learning Committee, a committee which oversees the management of nine health professional programs within the School. In this role in building the radiation therapy program at the University of Newcastle he has negotiated around $3M funding support from the DoHA, $800K as part of Health Workforce Australia initiatives, $3M million worth of industry partnership support, and around $900K of University grants. The program has grown from a small niche program to a large competitive program within the University, and in 2010 it was ranked by students as the number one program for its approach to work integrated learning. In 2011 Shane was awarded an Australian Learning & Teaching Council citation for his work on developing a curriculum of study that assists students for the transition from university learning to workplace learning, and in 2010 he was awarded the Varian Award for his significant contribution to radiation oncology. Shane is on the editorial review boards for The Radiographer in Australia and Radiography in the UK. His research interests in radiation therapy include issues related to the autonomy of practice, the development of radiation therapist clinical history models, the nutritional management of radiation therapy side effects, and outcomes assessment of clinical practice. In higher education his research interests include novel approaches to learning through assessment, bridging the gap in distance learning, and the development of metacognitive awareness as an important outcome of learning and assessment.

Associate Professor Rosemary Knight
Rosemary is the Principal Adviser in the Population Health Division within the Department of Health and Ageing. Her role is to provide advice on cancer and chronic diseases and recently she has had responsibility for driving the COAG Improving Cancer Care initiative announced in April 2010. Rosemary was previously the Head of the School of Public Health and Community Medicine within the Faculty of Medicine at the University of New South Wales in Sydney.
Rosemary has had over two decades of experience working in health research, policy and program implementation, including primary care, information management, healthcare financing, quality use of medicines, cancer, diabetes, asthma, cardiovascular disease, mental health and populations at risk. Her special interest is in chronic diseases and the National Priority Health Areas, especially cancer. She also has a particular focus on indigenous health, data, policy and health services research, as well as translating evidence into practice.

Mr David Collier
David was appointed Chief Executive of the Australian Institute of Radiography (AIR) in June 2008. He began his working life in New Zealand as a social worker, then teacher and later as a 20th century history lecturer at Auckland University. His research while studying for a PhD was specifically about New Zealanders in World War 2, and the ethical challenges faced by professionals living in totalitarian regimes. It was at this time he married and relinquishing study took on a position as a press secretary for the NZ Government before starting a career in consulting in 1994.
In 1997 he relocated to Australia and spent the following six years as the Principal Consultant for the Compliance Management Group where he worked predominantly in the healthcare sector. In 2003 he joined the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists as the Manager of Training, Assessment and Examinations with responsibility for the training and examination of candidates for entry into College fellowship.
In 2004 he became the CEO/Registrar of the Psychologists Registration Board of Victoria, where he built up a team of 21 staff working in four areas of activity – registration, complaints investigation, development and education and administration. Here his role is one of implementing of major change and development for the organisation. His strategic and organisational skills are playing a major part in the achievement of the Board’s long term goals.
David’s interests are many and varied, reflecting a life of wide experiences; from competing in a range of sports, through to performing arts, photography and writing. He has two young children.

Mrs Mary Aerts
Mary is a Health Physicist with the Radiation Health Branch of the Western Australian Department of Health and an authorized officer of the Radiological Council, Western Australia’s radiation regulatory authority. She oversees the radiotherapy and radiosotope areas of the Branch.
She was a member of the Working Groups for the ARPANSA Code of Practice for Radiation Protection in the Medical Applications of Ionizing Radiation and also for the ARPANSA Safety Guide for Radiation Protection in Radiotherapy.
She has many years of experience in radiation protection, and a background in hospital medical physics in New Zealand.
Invited Speakers

Dr Michael Harrison
Michael has been a Consultant Pathologist at Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology (SNP) for 25 years - 18 years mainly in Clinical Chemistry and Microbiology and then as CEO/Managing Partner for the past 8 years. Michael has a long history of service to the pathology industry through his contribution to education and quality activities; his membership and active participation in professional organisations, and their committees and interaction with government; and his support of the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA)/Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia (RCPA) Medical Testing Accreditation scheme and standards development through the National Pathology Accreditation Advisory Committee (NPAAC).

Michael's current responsibilities include:
- State Councillor QLD, Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia;
- Chair of the Quality Use of Pathology Committee;
- Executive member, Australian Association of Pathology Practices;
- Member of NPAAC, Document, Review and Liaison subcommittee and Working Parties: Guidelines for Data Transfer, Collection Centre Accreditation;
- Chair of the Medical Testing Accreditation Advisory Committee. NATA assessor for many years; and
- Member, DEAP, National Prescriber Service.

Ms Sue Sinclair
Sue is currently the General Manager Service Delivery and Clinical Practice at Cancer Australia. Cancer Australia is the national agency for cancer control which recently amalgamated with the National Breast and Ovarian Cancer Centre. The aims of the agency are to reduce mortality and improve the well being of people affected by cancer.

Sue has been Acting Director National Lung Cancer Program of Cancer Australia over the past year and also worked in cancer control for the last 5 years.

Sue has been responsible for leading core programs at a state and more recently at a national level to improve the co-ordination of patient care, patient support initiatives, developing models of care and education programs to support cancer health professionals and the uptake of best evidence based care.

Sue has over 20 years experience in clinical services with a strong clinical background in nursing, education and clinical trials. She has held senior clinical executive management roles in the acute care setting and has worked in both the public and private health sectors.

Dr Sean Brennan
Sean is a Senior Radiation Oncologist at the Townsville Hospital in Queensland where he is also the Director of Training. Additionally he holds a faculty position with James Cooke University Medical School. His clinical expertise lies in breast, gastrointestinal and neuro oncology. His technical involvements include IMRT and stereotactic radio-surgery. He has an interest in the provision of rural based support and care of radiation oncology patients, having previously been involved in the provision of primary health care in rural Zimbabwe.