Learning the Ropes: Clinical Immersion in the First Month of Residency

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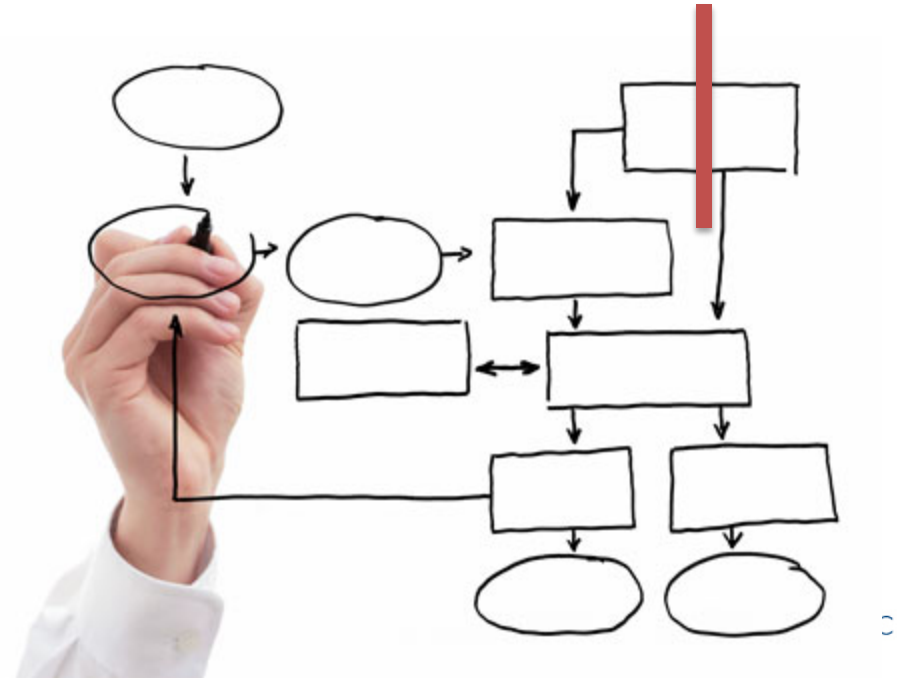
Goals for the First Month

- Didactic:
  - Equipment
  - Workflow
- Soft Skills
  - Get to know departmental staff
  - Staff gets to know resident

Mentor	Subject	Tasks
SD	Clinic Orientation	☐Attend all orientation lectures ☐Follow three patients (H&N, breast, prostate) longitudinally from consult through treatment ☐Observe Simulation/HDR (1 week) ☐Observe Elekta (1 week) ☐Observe Tomo/Dosimetry (1 week)
	QA Orientation	☐Attend radiation safety training. Sign-off on training topics. ☐Credential Radiation Safety read-and-sign ☐Attend engineering introduction to treatment machines ☐Attend machine operation and safety inservice ☐Observe machine warm-up and daily (morning) QAs on all treatment and simulation units: Agility, Integrity, Tomo, HDR, Gamma Knife, CT-sim. Coordinate with the appropriate therapists. ☐Complete on-line Mandatory Annual Training ☐Attend new employee orientation
	Required Reading	☐AAPM TG109 - Code of Ethics (4th week) ☐ASTRO Safety is No Accident (3rd week) ☐AAPM MPPG on Supervision (2nd week)
	Didactics	☐Review basic principles in radiation therapy chapter in Perez & Brady ☐Review Emami et al paper & Milano et al paper Semin Radiat Oncol 17:131-140, 2007 ☐Review simulation P&Ps ☐Clinical Lectures ☐Clinical Conferences

Clinic Orientation: The "axial" slice of workflow



Clinic Orientation Week 1: Administrative

- 2 Days of Orientation jointly with Physician Residents
  - Shared physics/RadOnc residency room
  - Establish social ties with physician residents
- 1 Day for mandatory training (HIPAA etc.)
- 1 Day for departmental training (engineering intro, linac safety, radiation safety etc.)

Clinic Orientation Week 2: Simulation

- Meet RTTs on simulator
- “Pretend here is your new therapy student”
- Simulation connects patients from physician to treatment
- Introduces the human aspect to the chart
- Appreciate the challenges of a good setup
- Learn about good bedside manners
- Communication between care team members

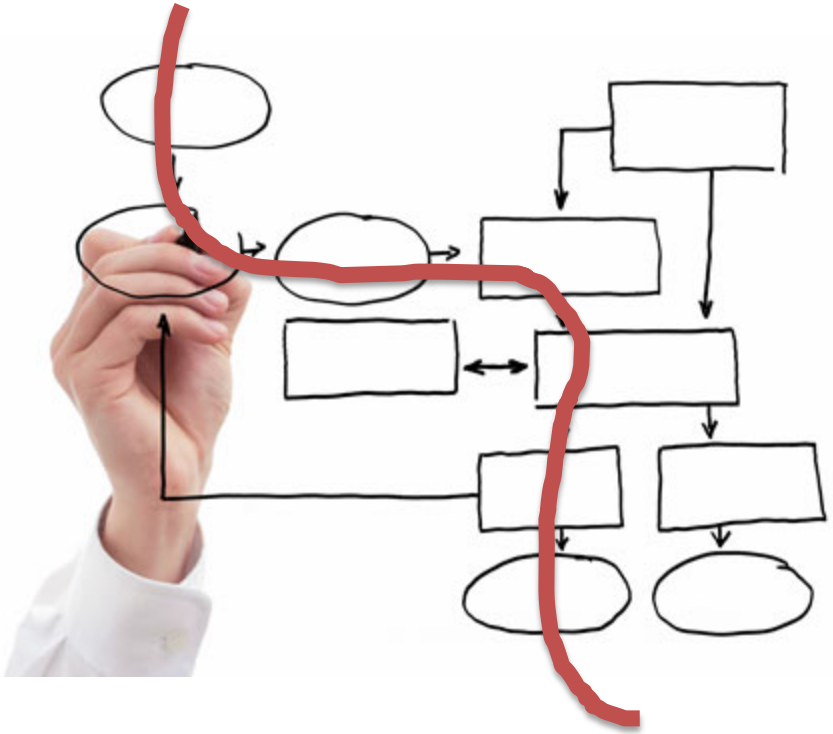
Clinic Orientation Week 3: Elekta

- Meet RTTs on machines
- Learn about reproducibility of setup from Sim to treatment
- Relationship between RTT and patient
- Feedback loop from machine to attending
- Start recognizing types of treatments (breast, prostate, H&N)
- Get a feel for workflow, typical issues (e.g. Monday chemo patients etc.)

Clinic Orientation Week 4: Tomo/Dosimetry

- Meet Tomo RTT team
- Compare/contrast Tomo vs. Elekta workflow
- Dosimetry
  - Meet dosimetrists
  - Workflow
  - Communication between dosimetrist, resident, attending, physics

Clinic Orientation: The "longitudinal" slice of workflow



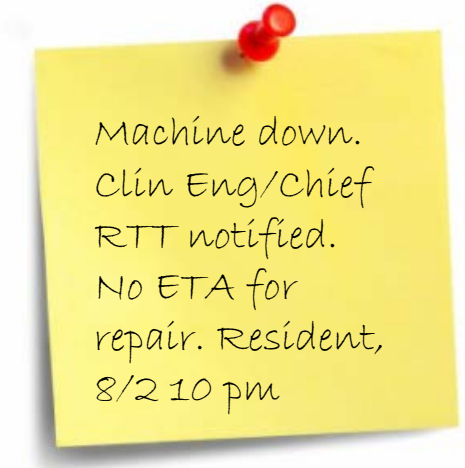
Site-Specific Clinic Rotation

- In parallel to machine observation
- Three high-volume sites:
  - Breast
  - H&N
  - Lung
- Strengthens tie with three of the physician residents

QA orientation

QA orientation: Daily warm-ups

- Work with morning RTT, Clin Eng, Physics
- Why it is important to leave machines in a good state at night!
- How to communicate issues found at night and actions taken to morning warm-up



Other Thoughts

Shared Workspace Physician / Physics residents

- Larger peer group means better social support
  - Finding your best buddy to weather the storms
  - Can de-escalate tension between the two physics residents
  - Diversity of background and experience
- Mutual understanding between professions
- Mutual teaching of didactics


SOCKS