

Daring Greatly in the Field

Todd Atwood, PhD
Associate Professor
Radiation Medicine & Applied Sciences

UC San Diego Health

RETHINKING MEDICAL PHYSICS

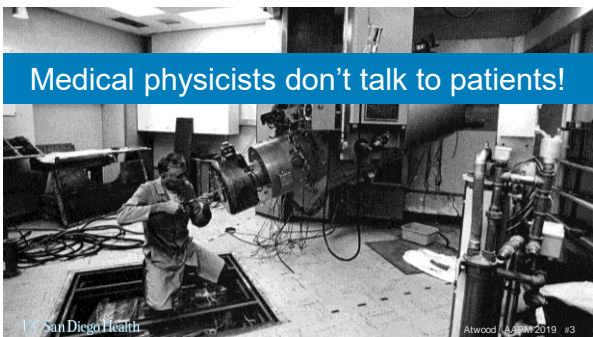


Medical physicists should meet with patients.

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Medical physicists don't talk to patients!



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Atwood / AAPM 2019 / #3

Learn from Our Patients

More patients are searching for ways to be involved in their care
Ritten L, et al. Patient Educ Couns (2005)

Online patient information is too complex for the general population
Rosenberg S, et al. Pract Radiat Oncol (2017)

Patient related distress can negatively impact outcomes following radiation therapy
Habboubh Y, et al. Adv Radiat Oncol (2017)



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Learn from Radiation Oncologists

Faced a dilemma of clinical practice in the latter half of last century

Often viewed merely as technicians treating referrals

Began to participate in tumor boards, multidisciplinary clinics, etc.

Transformed from radiotherapist to radiation oncologist



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Physics Direct Patient Care Initiative

Establish an independent professional relationship with the patient

Take ownership of all technical aspects related to the patient's care

Meet with the patient at regularly scheduled appointments

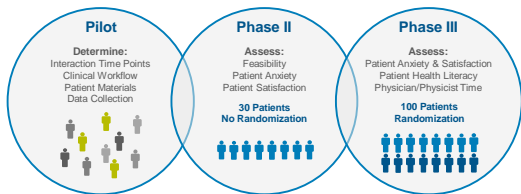
Initially assess the impact this has on patient anxiety and satisfaction

Lay the groundwork for future innovations and patient responsibilities

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Clinical Trial



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@DrMedPhys

Collaborators

- Derek Brown, PhD
- Kevin Moore, PhD
- Titania Juang, PhD
- James Murphy, MD
- Todd Pawlicki, PhD
- A.J. Mundt, MD

Clinical Trial

HRPP #161700X

Publications

- "Care for Patients, Not for Charts: A Future for Clinical Medical Physics"
Atwood TF, et al. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* 2018
- "Establishing a New Clinical Role for Medical Physicists: A Prospective Phase II Trial"
Atwood TF, et al. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* 2018
- "A Program to Train Medical Physicists for Direct Patient Care Responsibilities"
Brown D et al. *J Appl Clin Med Phys.* 2018
