2020 INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

COLLABORATIONS IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA: BENDING SILOS TO FOSTER SUCCESS

Moderators:
Stephanie A. Parker, MS, DABR, CSSGB
Derek Brown, PhD
LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Learn about the activities of organizations that work in the international arena

Gain insight into the challenges to the success of global health initiatives

Continue the dialog to discuss opportunities for successful collaboration with respect to international support activities
WHY ARE GLOBAL RT EFFORTS NEEDED?

- Cancer is a quickly growing cause of death in the developing world
  - Approximately 70% of deaths from cancer occur in LMICs. (WHO)
  - LMICs receive only 5% of global resources devoted to cancer (Moten et al)
- Limited access to radiation therapy in LMICs
  - Up to 90% of people in low-income countries no access to RT (BBC 2015)
  - 40 African countries have no radiotherapy treatment facilities at all. (BBC 2015)
Number of Radiotherapy Machines per 1 Million People 2017

RADIOThERAPY MACHINES ONLY ONE PIECE OF PUZZLE
OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Trained Staff including Medical Physicists
- Quality Assurance Equipment
- Routine Maintenance & Repair
WHY THIS SESSION?

- Multiple groups working on global radiation therapy initiatives
- Limited communication between groups
- Duplication of effort
- Steep learning curve in global health
  - Learning same lessons independently?
  - Repeating same mistakes?
GOALS OF SESSION

- Bring together representatives of different groups participating in global radiotherapy
- Learn about the work of various groups
- Start a dialog between the groups
- Sow seeds for increased collaboration
SESSION PARTICIPANTS

- Sample of those working on global RT efforts
- Represent nine organizations
  - Six presentations
  - + 3 joining in panel discussion
Intergovernmental Organization

IAEA

Non-Governmental Organizations

RADIATING HOPE

Medical Physics for World Benefit

Multi-Institutional Collaborations

Rcc

Kenyan Physics Forum

Professional Organizations

AAPM/IOMP Equipment Donation Program

Industry

varian

First-Hand Experience

Africa

Mexico
Connecting the Dots Panel Discussion
Led by Derek Brown, PhD
BUILDING BRIDGES WITH MEDICAL PHYSICS EQUIPMENT: THE AAPM/IOMP EQUIPMENT DONATION PROGRAM

Stephanie A. Parker, MS, DABR, CSSGB
Estimates that 80% of health-care equipment in some countries is donated or funded by international donors or foreign governments.

According to one estimate, only 10-30% of donated equipment becomes operational in developing countries.

https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/44568/9789241501408_eng.pdf?sequence=1
BOTTOM LINE

It takes more than good intentions

https://www.flickr.com/photos/wwarby/2405431288
Some potential equipment donation limitations and strategies:

- **Resource Intensive**: Time, Labor, Shipping, Travel

- **Limited Resources Available**

- **Should establish processes that are likely to result in success**
1) Health care equipment donations should benefit the recipient to the maximum extent possible;
2) Donations should be given with due respect for the wishes and authority of the recipient, and in conformity with government policies and administrative arrangements of the recipient country.
3) There should be no double standard in quality. If the quality of an item is unacceptable in the donor country, it is also unacceptable as a donation.
4) There should be effective communication between the donor and the recipient, with all donations made according to a plan formulated by both parties.

HOW IS AAPM/IOMP EQUIPMENT DONATION PROGRAM ABIDING BY WHO PRINCIPLES?
EQUIPMENT
ACCEPTABLE
FOR
PROGRAM

Functional or easily serviceable equipment
Electronic equipment manufactured since 2000

Easy to use with basic instruction

New equipment

Older equipment such as: Solid water and other non electronic phantoms
TO DONATE EQUIPMENT TO PROGRAM

- Complete donation form on AAPM website
  - Visit us at:
  - https://www.aapm.org/international/EquipmentDonation.asp
- Receive a pre-paid shipping label
- Ship us your items
EXISTING REQUESTS FOR EQUIPMENT CAN BE FOUND ON THE AAPM/IOMP EQUIPMENT DONATION PROGRAM WEBSITE

https://www.aapm.org/international/EquipmentDonation.asp
- Review list of requested items
  - Listen to the needs of the requesting organization
- Learn as much as possible about the recipient site
  - Email
  - Conversations
  - Surveys
- Attempt to overcome language barriers

COMMUNICATION
DONATIONS AS A MEANS TO BUILD BRIDGES

1. Collaborating with MPWB
2. Medical Physicist delivers equipment to site
3. Provides Training on equipment
4. Establishes relationship with physicists at recipient institution
5. Maintains relationship over time
IOMP/AAPM EQUIPMENT DONATION PROGRAM

The Amazing Stephanie Lampe
IOMP/AAPM EQUIPMENT DONATION PROGRAM

Trip to Houston to Inventory Equipment
INSTITUTE NATIONAL DEL CANCER

Santiago, Chile, October, 2019
IN THE WORKS

- Planning donation to hospital in Mexico
- Gathered Equipment
- Established team
- Finalizing Surveys
- On hold due to pandemic
THANK YOU
(ASANTE SANA)
REFERENCES


https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/44568/9789241501408_eng.pdf?sequence=1
https://www.aapm.org/international/EquipmentDonation.asp
https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/cancer

