Establishing a Modern Radiation Oncology Infrastructure in West Africa through the Systematic Resolution of the Fundamental Problems Associated with Medicine in the Region

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Obstacles to Overcome
- Infrastructure
- Facilities and equipment
- Personnel along with education and training
- Regulation
- Cancer registry, regional understanding, early detection
Methods for Success

- Cost-gain benefit
  - Equipment
  - Personnel
  - Patient throughput

Methods for Success cont.

- Proper Training
  - Standardize Education
  - Standardize Qualification
  - Standardize Training
  - Standardize Equipment
  - Establish a mentorship program

Methods for Success cont.

- Accountability
  - Procedure
  - Regulatory bodies
  - Checklists
  - Documentation
  - Patient Voice
Primary focus is as an organizational body
Governments; medical professionals, organizations, and institutions; universities; companies; charities etc.
Allow the possibility for any entity to provide useful assistance in the West African region

Radiating Hope cont.
- Senegalese Government
- Institut Curie de L'Hopital Aristide Le Dantec in Dakar, Senegal
- University of California at San Diego (UCSD)
- American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM), International Affairs Committee of the AAPM, and African Affairs Subcommittee of the AAPM
- International Organization of Medical Physics (IOMP), and the Professional Relations Committee of the IOMP
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- American College of Radiation Oncology (ACRO)
- Association of Residents in Radiation Oncology (ARRIO)
- Radiation Therapy
- Radion Global
- Revenue Cycle
- Sherpa Adventure Gear
- Under negotiations with the American College of Radiology (ACR)
- Under negotiations with Varian and Elekta

Radiating Hope cont.
- First trip to Africa November 30 – December 10, 2012
Radiating Hope cont.
- Organizational efforts
- Education, training, mentorship
- Partner Hospitals
- Equipment Donation
- New Equipment Implementation and Support
- Volunteer Work
- Fundraising
- Miscellaneous

Conclusions
- Only in an organized effort can the efforts of each individual be maximized
- Conservation of time, energy, money, personnel, equipment
- West Africa is a blank canvas for medical improvements.

Questions?
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