MASTER OF RADIATION THERAPY

WHAT IS RADIATION THERAPY?

Radiation therapy is one of the most sophisticated tools of modern medicine, playing a major role in the treatment of cancer. It is a highly specialised area of the radiation sciences. Radiation therapy is a scientific and clinical profession that utilises ionising radiation in the treatment of patients with benign and malignant diseases. Radiation can be used on its own, or in combination with other cancer management strategies such as a surgery or cytotoxic chemotherapy. This depends on many factors including the diagnosis, how advanced the disease is and the health of the patient. Radiation therapists are an integral part of the multidisciplinary team involved in caring for cancer patients.

WHAT DO RADIATION THERAPISTS DO?

Radiation therapists are health professionals who are responsible for the design and implementation of radiation treatment and the care of patients undergoing radiation therapy. The responsibilities involved in planning and delivering radiation therapy for external beam treatment, brachytherapy and specialist services include:

- educating, assessing and caring for patients undergoing radiation therapy
- performing image acquisition, fusion and interpretation to localise treatment volumes for planning
- modelling beam arrangements on state-of-the-art computer planning systems to maximise tumour dose and minimise dose to surrounding healthy tissues
- administering radiation treatment
- research and continuing professional development
- clinical teaching.

HOW DO I BECOME A RADIATION THERAPIST?

Successful completion of the Master of Radiation Therapy allows graduates to apply for full registration as a radiation therapist (subject to English language requirements of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency).

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Management
- Specialist practitioner in paediatrics, adaptive treatment and stereotactic treatments
- Advanced practice opportunities in a number of clinical areas
- Applications specialist and equipment sales
- Research careers – research degrees in radiation therapy leading to a Master of Philosophy (MPhil) or Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), participation in national and international research studies.

HOW TO APPLY AND SELECTION

Selection Criteria
Please refer to study.monash for the application process and admission requirements: study.monash/courses/find-a-course/2017/radiation-therapy-m6004

Additional selection criteria
- Undertake a clinical site visit within a radiation therapy centre
- Undertake further assessment.

Further information can also be found through the Department of Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences: med.monash.edu.au/radiography/postgrad/master-radiation-therapy.html

Applicants holding degrees in other disciplines will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences.

COURSE OUTLINE

The Master of Radiation Therapy is an accelerated master’s coursework degree designed to facilitate entry into the radiation therapy profession. This degree prepares qualified and capable graduates to assume practice as a radiation therapist in public and private centres, locally, nationally and internationally. The degree is a two-year, full-time, online intensive program that commences mid-year. The course comprises of three semesters per year (including two summer semesters).
CLINICAL PLACEMENTS

Clinical placements commence in year one and continue throughout the course. Clinical placements are undertaken in large teaching hospitals and private practices to ensure students gain access to the best learning opportunities. Placements may also be available in rural settings and interstate. All participants in the course must complete police checks, Working With Children checks and a first aid course before commencing the clinical placements.

Students must also comply with the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences’ immunisation and infection risk policies. Failure to hold satisfactory checks or meet the immunisation policy may result in students being unable to complete this course.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Vic 3800 Australia

Tel: 1800 MONASH (1800 666 274)
Email: future@monash.edu
Web: study.monash/courses/find-a-course/2016/radiation-therapy-m6004?domestic=true

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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