Towards safe accessible and appropriate radiation treatment

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Essential Health Technologies EHT
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ACCESS TO IMAGING SERVICES

- Access to diagnostic imaging services is inequitable in developing countries

- To remedy the situation, WHO
  - in the 1970’s introduced the Basic Radiological System (WHO-BRS)
  - in the 1990’s changed the technical specifications to the World Health Imaging System for Radiography (WHIS-RAD).
  - A “safe, inexpensive diagnostic imaging system for developing countries”.

World Health Organization
ACCESS TO RADIOTHERAPY

- Access to radiotherapy services is inequitable in developing countries

- In 1993 a PAHO/WHO/IAEA/UNIDO meeting on this topic in Washington DC.
  - The publication listed the problems of existing teletherapy units and explored new alternate designs more suitable for developing countries to be considered by manufacturers of linear accelerators.
PATIENT SAFETY

- In 2001, resolution WHA55.18, “Quality of Care: Patient Safety” urges Member States to pay the greatest attention to the problem of patient safety and to establish and strengthen the scientific systems necessary for improving patient safety and the quality of care.

- In 2007, the PASC also approved the Resolution on “Regional Policy and Strategy for Ensuring Quality of Health Care, including Patient Safety”.

In 1994 the **International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources (BSS)** was jointly sponsored by the FAO, IAEA, ILO, NEA/OECD, PAHO and WHO.


WHO completed the adoption of the BSS in 1995 by the Executive Board at its 95th session.

The BSS was published by the IAEA in 1996.

The BSS is currently under revision.
Urges Member States:

- (3) to draw up national or regional guidelines for good manufacturing and regulatory practices, to establish surveillance systems and other measures to ensure the quality, safety and efficacy of medical devices and where appropriate participate in international harmonization;

Requests the Director General of WHO:

- 5) to work jointly with other organizations of the United Nations system, international organizations, academic institutions and professional bodies in order to provide support to Member States in the prioritization, selection and use of health technologies in particular medical devices;
WHO Programs on Radiation and Health

WHO HQ

Director General Office (DGO)

General Management (GM)

Family and Community Health (FCH)

Non-communicable Diseases & Mental Health (NMH)

Cancer Control Programme

Evidence and Information for Policy (EIP)

HIV, TB, Malaria, Neglected Tropical Diseases, (HTM)

Health Systems and Services (HSS)

Health Action in Crises (HAC)

Health Security and Environment (HSE)

Links to 6 Regional and 147 Country Offices

WHO Programs on Radiation and Health

WHO Programs on Radiation and Health

WHO Programs on Radiation and Health
WHO recent news

- Memorandum of Understanding with the International Organization of Medical Physics IOMP
- WHO Global Initiative on Radiation Safety in Health Care Settings
Thank you!

www.who.int/medical_devices