



VMRPET - Grant Recipient Abstracts

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Overcoming radiation therapy language barriers with the use of an instant translation device for culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) patients.

- Hunter, D., Schneider, M., Wright, C., Oates, R.

Radiation therapy treatment presents a unique challenge for culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) cancer patients. Evidence suggests that CALD patients are disadvantaged by poor cancer literacy, restricted access to optimal care and undisclosed psychosocial issues. This prospective intervention study aims to overcome communication barriers associated with non-English speaking patients presenting for daily radiation therapy treatment. It is hypothesised that an instant translation device will improve treatment compliance and address unmet patient needs. Study outcomes are expected to inform radiation therapy practice and may provide a foundation to expand into other medical radiations professions, nursing and/or allied health domains.

Synchrotron radiation therapy: radiobiology studies to prepare for clinical trials

- Smyth, L

Synchrotron radiation therapy (SRT) is an experimental form of radiation therapy that has fundamentally different physical properties compared to conventional radiation therapy (CRT). The biological consequences of these physical parameters include reduced side effects for healthy organs, resulting in a better therapeutic index. An understanding of the biological effects of SRT, especially in regard to toxicity, is crucial to its translation to clinical use. The findings of this project will enhance our understanding of the differential biological effects of SRT and CRT at a molecular level and provide novel insight into the normal tissue sparing effects of SRT.