

3rd European Inspection Workshop

HERCA MedInspector 2023

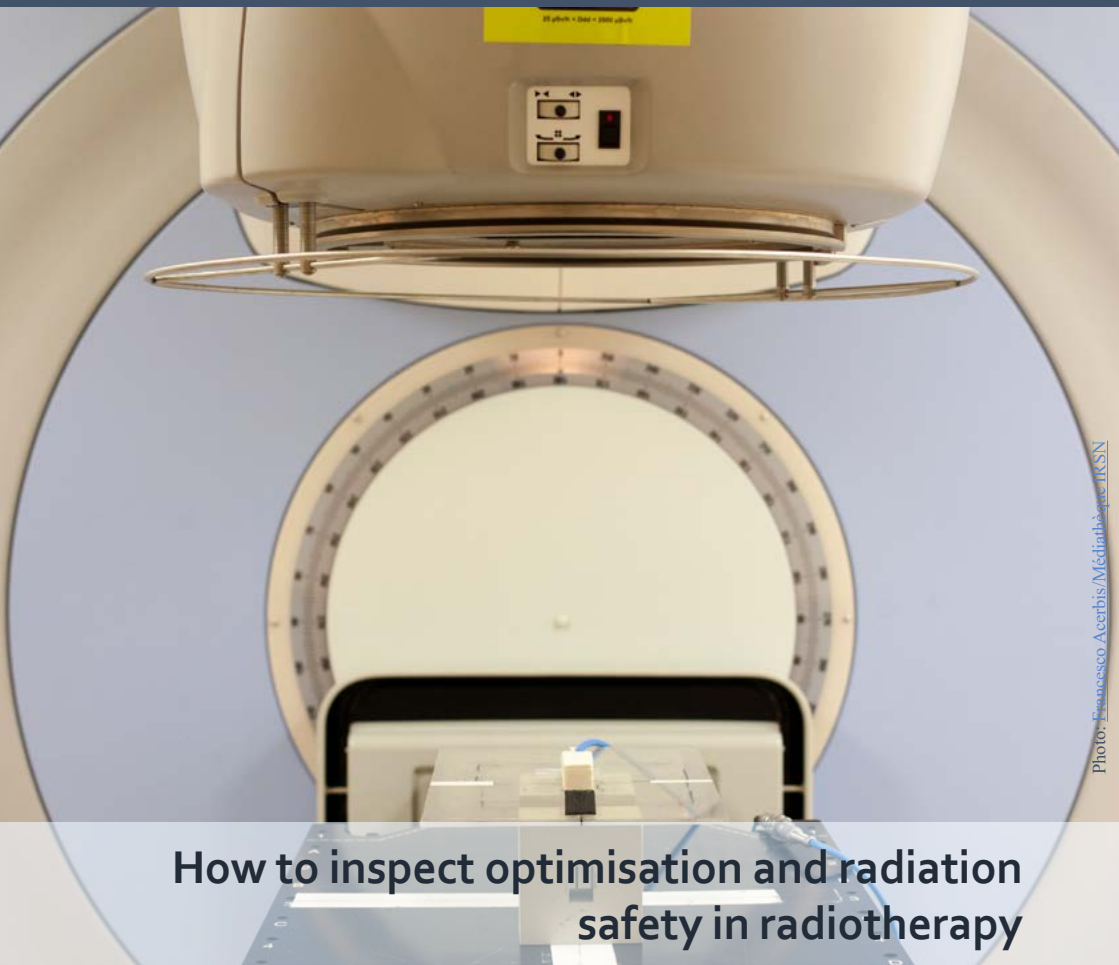


Photo: Francesco Acerbis/Médiatech/RSN

How to inspect optimisation and radiation safety in radiotherapy

7–9 June 2023 | Vantaa, Finland

Welcome to the 3rd HERCA Inspection Workshop

Context

Justification and optimisation are two of the fundamental principles in radiation protection and, according to the European radiation protection Directive (BSS), must be carried out for every individual exposure.

Regulatory bodies have an important role in promoting and supervising that optimisation is properly implemented in radiotherapy. Inspection to verify effective local implementation of optimisation together with good radiation safety practice is therefore an important task for the regulatory bodies. The goal of HERCA is to facilitate the development of training and provide opportunities to share experiences so that inspectors may gain sufficient competence to be able to ensure that adequate processes are in place and adhered to.

Scope

The workshop will cover radiotherapy and focus on typical external beam radiotherapy with linear accelerators. Brachytherapy, proton therapy and new types of treatment modalities will not be covered specifically in detail. How to inspect the implementation of optimisation and good radiation safety practice will be the main topics. The workshop will not focus on

the principle of justification. Reflections on risk assessment, quality assurance and patient dosimetry will be given and challenges in radiation safety will be identified and addressed.

The workshop will provide a platform to bring together senior inspectors from Europe, to exchange practical ideas and experiences that will contribute to good practices in the inspection of radiation safety and optimisation within radiotherapy. It is not intended as a course/school for new inspectors.

Target group

The target group for this workshop is inspectors with several years' experience of inspecting radiotherapy facilities.

Objectives

- Disseminate and harmonise good inspector practices throughout Europe
- Identify challenges and areas for improvement
- Discuss how onsite inspection can be used as an effective and efficient tool for implementing the principle of optimisation and radiation safety in radiotherapy

Topic: Radiotherapy

7–9 June 2023, Vantaa, Finland

Workshop format

The workshop will be held over 2.5 days. The first part of the workshop will consist of presentations delivered by invited speakers, highlighting some of the current issues relevant to radiotherapy inspections. The second part of the program will be devoted to discussions within working groups to enable participants to share good practices and challenges. The roles of moderator & rapporteur for these sessions will be distributed amongst the participants. From the discussions, participants will produce recommendations on the practical aspects of inspection of optimisation and radiation safety within radiotherapy.

The workshop will cover the following sessions:

- Welcome and setting the scene
- Role and task of a modern radiation protection authority in medicine
- Challenges in radiation safety
- Improving inspector competence

Working group topics

Session 1: How to inspect radiation safety measures

- ♦ WG1: Use of technical support organisations (TSO) and other external bodies
- ♦ WG2: Imaging for treatment planning

- ♦ WG3: Safety culture

Session 2: How to inspect patient dosimetry

- ♦ WG4: Therapy planning and dosimetry
- ♦ WG5: Verification of patient dosimetry calculations
- ♦ WG6: Phantom measurements and in-vivo dosimetry

Session 3: How to inspect quality assurance

- ♦ WG7: QA Handbook and Patient tracks description
- ♦ WG8: Technical quality assurance by staff and vendor
- ♦ WG9: Incident management

Participants will be asked to indicate the topics that they would prefer to participate in and whether they would like to act as moderator or rapporteur in their registration form.

Social program

To foster engagement between inspectors from different countries social events will be organised.

Venue and accommodation

Local host

The workshop is hosted by STUK – Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority and will take place at their headquarters in Jokiniemi, a district of the town of Vantaa, Finland.

Address: STUK – Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority, Jokiniemenkuja 1, 01370 Vantaa, Finland
[Information on how to reach STUK](#) (active link).

Fees and Registration

There will be no fees to attend this workshop. Participants will be expected to cover their own travel and accommodation fees.

The registration deadline is:

21st April 2023

Where possible, each country should not exceed 2 participants to allow a broad participation from all of Europe. More than 2 participants will be permitted if spaces are available.

Online registration

Registration is done by filling out the online [registration form](#).

Questions related to the registration can be sent to: eva.friberg@dsa.no

Hosting organization

Heads of the European Radiological protection Competent Authorities (HERCA)

Programme committee

Philipp Trueb (Switzerland, chair), Eva G. Friberg (Norway), Collette O'Connor (Ireland), Sampsa Kaijaluoto (Finland), Petra Tenkanen-Rautakoski (Finland), Anja Almén (Sweden), Petr Papirnik (Czech Republic), Dejan Zontar (Slovenia), Herbert Michalczyk (Germany)

Additional information

Please check the [HERCA web page](#) for updated information on the workshop. Here you will find the workshop program and further information on suggested accommodation.

For further information about the workshop, please contact your national representative of the HERCA Working Group Medical Application (WGMA) or the programme committee chair:

philipp.trueb@bag.admin.ch