

Global Harmonization Group

Minutes

ESTRO 31, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2012

**Present:** Coen Hurkmans (EORTC), Christos Melidis (EORTC), Satoshi Ishikura (JCOG), Annette Haworth (TROG), Martin Ebert (TROG), Tommy Knöös (ESTRO), Edwin Aird (RTTQA), Stefano Gianolini (VODCA), Peter Dunscombe (NCIC), Michael Sharp (NCIC), Masayori Ishikawa (JCOG), Catherine Clark (RTTQA), Liz Miles (RTTQA), Bruce Curran (invited speaker), Frank-Andre Siebert (invited speaker)

**Discussion and Decisions Taken:**

1. Opening and new members' applications

- RTTQA has joined the Steering Committee of the Global Harmonisation Group (GHG). Terms of Reference to be amended. Named member Catharine Clark.
- ESTRO and NCIC have expressed interest to join GHG as members. They will submit an application letter to the steering committee so their candidature can be decided upon.
- History of GHG presentation given by Coen Hurkmans (see GHG site).

2. Website presentation and next steps

- Presentation given by Coen Hurkmans (see GHG site),
- All involved organizations of the GHG are requested to include a link to the GHG website on their website.
- IAEA was approached to support the website. Further discussion required.

3. Presentation from Steering Committee members identifying their current projects and visions

- TROG's presentation by Annette Haworth and Martin Ebert (see GHG site). TROG is noticing that hot plans are being produced when the Monaco TPS system is used. This has also been noted by RTTQA group and the US have noted doses up to 12% higher. A possible explanation: Coen Hurkmans suggested that the protocol may not represent current dose tolerances and that sites may not be adhering to the limitations within the protocol. Problems have also been encountered with DVH export from Xio and new version of PINNACLE, the latter does not appear to export the DVH data.
- JCOG's presentation by Satoshi Ishikura (see GHG site). JCOG is currently implementing QART in proton therapy.
- EORTC's presentation given by Coen Hurkmans (see GHG site). Definitions of minor and major trial deviations to be discussed further.

4. GHG QA levels paper and General GHG paper update. Proposal for QART levels naming convention

- Christos Melidis presented both GHG draft papers and proposed harmonized naming conventions for QART levels (see GHG site).
- Harmonized name required for "Benchmark Case" procedure, instead of "Dummy Run With or Without Delineation Exercise". To be discussed next TC.

5. Report on IAEA meeting on dosimetry audit networks

- Coen Hurkmans presented an abstract from the IAEA meeting April 2012 in Vienna
- IAEA has gathered data from National Auditors around the world and plans to create a Dosimetry Audit Network (DAN) International Recognition Group.

6. Projects and funding opportunities

- Yearly budget to be drafted
- Budget to include generic and project specific costs
- Suggestion made to contact UISS in Switzerland and ICRU in USA for funding opportunities

7. DICOM in Brachytherapy

- Presentation by Frank-Andre Siebert(see GHG site)
- There are 3 “Levels” of DICOM questionnaires, for clinical trials L3 is required
- One brachytherapy trial to be opened by RTTQA including unit and patient specific QART. EORTC has one brachytherapy trial open with FQ, ERDA and Dummy Run with Delineation Exercise QART.

8. DICOM standards – newest developments

- Presentation by Bruce Curran(see GHG site).
- Standards last update in 1996, new standards are needed, especially for IMRT.

9. Next TC and meetings – suggestion for topics.

- Next TC to be organized at end of September

Preliminary Agenda:

- new group members and observers
- naming conventions
- progress of GHG papers
- definitions of major and minor trial deviations
- IAEA ERDA meeting
- funding opportunities (approach UISS, ICRU)
- draft budget
- Support of website (IAEA)
- Links to GHG website by each organization
- next meeting, ICCR