

Simulated patient briefing notes

Radiation Therapy Students' scenario

Title

Radiation safety and communication

Summary/overview

This simulation provides an opportunity for participants to practise conducting themselves safely in a radiation therapy environment, based on the knowledge learned in the education session. Each participant will have an opportunity to enter the radiation therapy environment in their clinical role while the other participants observe. Each simulation may last up to 5 minutes. After each simulation, there will be a short 5 minute debrief led by the facilitator where the active participant and the observers can discuss any safety or communication issues which occurred in the simulation.

Learning objectives

At the conclusion of this simulation, participants will be able to:

1. Identify the key safety aspects involved with working in a radiation area.
2. Demonstrate safe conduct in a radiation area.
3. Manage a highly distressed patient in a radiation area .

Scenario

This simulation activity is set in a radiation therapy environment. There is a waiting area, console, and treatment room.

Participants' tasks

The aim is for participants to attempt to manage a situation where a patient becomes very distressed prior to having treatment. They need to respond appropriately when the patient becomes distressed, use communication strategies to help the patient calm down, and make relevant referrals. They also need to conduct themselves in a safe manner in the radiation therapy environment, use appropriate and polite professional communication and consider patient safety at all times.

About your role

Your tasks	You will start by sitting in the waiting area. You may be slightly fidgety or appearing somewhat anxious. The participant will come to collect you and bring you around to the treatment room. The participant will ask you to put on a gown and then lie down on the treatment table. When lying down, your anxiety increases. This might present as heavy breathing, asking lots of questions, or crying. When the participant places the mask on, then you become extremely anxious and begin yelling and trying to take off the mask. Gradually decrease anxiety as the participant uses appropriate strategies to calm you down.
Wardrobe/makeup	Casual clothing.

DISCLAIMER

Care has been taken to confirm the accuracy of the information presented and to describe generally accepted practices. However, the authors and publisher are not responsible for perceived or actual inaccuracies, omissions or interpretation of the contents of this simulation. All characters appearing in this simulation are fictitious. Any resemblance to real persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental.