ENHANCING THE MEDICAL PHYSICIST - PATIENT RELATIONSHIP

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Objectives

1. Describe typical interactions in the simulation process
2. Discuss ways to improve the physicist – patient interaction during simulation
3. Illustrate ways to work as a team with radiation oncologists and radiation therapists
Patient Interactions in the Simulator

Take a moment to introduce yourself
Explain that simulation is when decisions are made concerning their treatment setup

Explain what the potential issues are concerning their treatment

Explain what your role is in this process
Be Proactive

- Learn what the issues are for various disease sites
- Learn about patient setup and how it affects the patient anatomy
- Be up to date on tissue tolerances that could be of concern for this particular case
Creative Solutions
Get Involved

- Participate in the decision making process
- Determine sites where prior dose were delivered
  - Be aware if treatment was given at outside facility
- Discuss what the new clinical plan is
  - Area to be treated
  - Dose to be delivered
- Include the patient when appropriate in the discussion
Be Part of the Team!
THE CONSULT

- 100 year old female
- Recurrent vulva cancer
- Originally treated in 2005 to right inguinal area
- Received 55 Gy
- Can we treat this recurrent lower mass?

THE ANSWER

It is ok to say “I am not sure we can retreat until after the CT-sim”
58 year old man with a Basal cell Carcinoma on lower eye lid for 10+ years

CAN YOU SAVE THE EYE?

CAN YOU USE AN INTERNAL EYE SHIELD?
Remember your input can have a positive impact on a patient treatment