Report from COVID19 Ground Zero

RAMESH RENGAN, MD, PHD, FASTRO, INTERIM DEPARTMENT CHAIR
ERIC FORD, PHD, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL PHYSICS
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, SEATTLE
Seattle as Bellwether

How has situation unfolded?

What were the immediate changes?

What are the next waves of considerations?

What can I expect to happen in my community?
Risk Reduction

How do I reduce risk of transmission:
➢ Patient to patient, patient to staff, staff to patient, staff to staff

What screening process for patients? For staff? Active vs passive
  ◦ Staff indications vs patient indications vs general populations for testing

How do I manage infection control for personalized devices (i.e., immobilization devices)? Storage, etc?

What about non-patient specific devices (i.e., active breathing control devices)?

Check your institution’s and CDC covid19 guidelines on daily basis.

*Request infection control site visit of your practice!!*
4.2.1. General Medical Issues. Each radiation oncology practice, regardless of its location, size or complexity, must appropriately adhere to high-quality standards of practice by managing and documenting general medical issues, such as:

➢ *Cleanliness and efforts to reduce infection, including management of treatment-related devices and patients on contact precautions...*

5.7.1. Ongoing Staff Training. The infection control program includes annual staff training.

10.4. The ROP has infection control procedures for disinfection and/or sterilization of radiation oncology specific items including:

✓ simulation/treatment/clinic room equipment.
✓ non-custom positioning devices and accessories.
✓ immobilization devices.

Check [www.astro.org/covid19](http://www.astro.org/covid19)
Managing COVID19+

Patients?
- Droplet precautions?
- Anesthesia patients?
- Ventilator patients?

Staff?
- Expect workforce depletion (10-25%)
- Supervision issues
Workforce Considerations

What is the minimum number of patient-facing staff needed to provide treatments?

Under what considerations will you refer to others? Do you have those relationships in place?

Who on your staff can telework?

Do you have adequate IT support for teleworking?

Are you actively going to encourage at-risk/vulnerable staff to telework?
Recommendations

1. Request infection control consult
   Begin screening patients and staff

2. Think about staffing, telework options
   Ensure sufficient IT resources

3. Follow your regional CDC for updates daily
   Huddle with team to keep staff up to speed

Check [www.astro.org/covid19](http://www.astro.org/covid19) for updates