



ANA PAULA VOLLET CUNHA: Brazil

Implementing Image Guided Radiotherapy treatments.



Ms. Ana Puala Vollet Cunha of Brazil is undergoing a United States IAEA Fellowship at Washington University in St. Louis, MO, USA. During her fellowship she is receiving training under the supervision of Dr. Eric Klein with the objectives of developing protocols and implementing Image Guided Radiotherapy (IGRT) treatments, particularly with cone beams. There is also an emphasis on work flow, protocols and quality assurance (QA), IGRT in Radiosurgery, procedures and physical aspects of treatments with Gamma Knife and Tomotherapy. Ms. Vollet Cunha began her training by attending the ASTRO conference where she learned about new types of treatment and quality assurance in IGRT. After this she began her training at Washington University with observational rotations and meetings with major physicists at the Department of Radiation Oncology. Ms. Cunha is learning many valuable things through her fellowship. She has

observed CT Scanning to see which accessories are used for immobilization of the patients as well as the process of import and merge images in the Treatment Planning System-TPS. In addition she observed treatment on the machines, instruction on imaging protocols, different devices for IGRT such as RTAlign, KV imaging devices, and Electronic Portal Imaging Device (EPID), monthly QA for KV Imaging device, Brachytherapy to observe the planning of Interstitial Brachytherapy and the entire process for Gynecological Brachytherapy from the insertion of the applicator up to the treatment. Ms. Cunha observed a treatment on a machine and learned the steps from planning until treatment. The remainder of her fellowship will cover Gamma Knife and imaging for treatment planning specific to IGRT modalities as well as quality assurance for IGRT devices and treatment of IGRT patients. Ms. Vollet Cunha has had the opportunity to observe and train with many doctors and experts in the Department of Radiation during her fellowship.

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