



The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists®

The Faculty of Radiation Oncology

Dr Louise Nardone
Director of Training
Central Coast Cancer Centre (Gosford Hospital)
75 Holden Street
Gosford NSW 2250

12 December 2022

Dear Dr Nardone

Re: Accreditation of Central Coast Cancer Centre (Gosford Hospital) for Radiation Oncology Training

Thank you for your correspondence dated 17 November 2022. The College notes the sites intent to comply with the recommendations as part of the accreditation visit for the Department of Central Coast Cancer Centre (Gosford Hospital) which was undertaken by the College's assessors on 9 May 2022. However, please note that the substance and timeline of the reports required remain unchanged, as per the assessment outcomes, and are not for negotiation.

As previously indicated, the Radiation Oncology Education and Training Committee (ROETC) has carefully reviewed and considered the assessors' findings and documentation at its meeting on 26 August 2022. As a result, the Central Coast Cancer Centre (Gosford Hospital) was downgraded to a **Level D accreditation status until 26 September 2023**.

Please note it is a requirement that the Progress Reports be submitted to the College including evidence which will be reviewed and discussed at the first Radiation Oncology Education and Training Committee (ROETC) meeting in 2023. Non-compliance to submit the progress reports on their due dates and failure to meet the conditions required of the Criteria set in the Standards will result in further adverse findings against the accreditation status of this training site.

- **Progress Report to address the below Criterion - to be submitted by COB 9 January 2023**
- **Further Progress Report to address outstanding Criterion - to be submitted by COB 27 March 2023**

Criterion 2.2.5; 2.2.6; and 2.4.2

- Central Coast Cancer Centre (Gosford Hospital) to ensure all clinics always have on-site consultants in attendance and demonstrate this through the provision of signed RO attendance logs and audits for the next 3 months to be prepared by the quality manager. It is preferable that this be the usual RO, but an alternative onsite RO is acceptable.
- Central Coast Cancer Centre (Gosford Hospital) to ensure that all patients are reviewed by a consultant radiation oncologist (RO) in person prior to simulation and demonstrate this through provision of signed RO attendance logs and audits for the next 3 months to be prepared by the quality manager. It is preferable that this be the treating RO, but an alternative onsite RO is acceptable.
- Central Coast Cancer Centre (Gosford Hospital) to develop an agreed policy for on-site cover arrangements for all consultants, for all leave (the current policy addresses only planned leave). The policy should include clear documentation of which RO will provide the on-site support on behalf of any RO that is off-site, for any reason e.g., annual leave, sick leave, COVID-related isolation needs, etc.
- Central Coast Cancer Centre (Gosford Hospital) to provide an estimation of hours per week sessional RO's are to commit for on-site supervision and training of accredited registrars, as well as evidence of any offsite training conducted.

Criterion 2.4.2

- Central Coast Cancer Centre (Gosford Hospital) ROs should return to conducting their work on-site, as per the February 2022 directive from the hospital Executive.

Criterion 2.2.1

- Central Coast Cancer Care Centre (Gosford Hospital) to provide the College with the report from the recently conducted External Culture Review as soon as is practicable.

Criterion 2.2.3

- Central Coast Cancer Centre (Gosford Hospital) provide a prospective schedule of internal tutorials for end of 2022/ first half of 2023 including speakers and topics. Department to ensure attendance records/logs are kept and available.
- Central Coast Cancer Centre (Gosford Hospital) to consider encouraging all clinical supervisors to attend a DoT workshop or webinar over the next 12 months to ensure all are aware of the educational changes associated with the new training program.

Criterion 2.2.6

- Central Coast Cancer Centre (Gosford Hospital) to rescind the responsibility for trainees to oversee the cover of clinics in the setting of trainee and consultant planned leave. This duty should be performed by those with appropriate authority i.e., DoT or HoD
- Central Coast Cancer Centre (Gosford Hospital) to limit the absolute maximum of 6 clinics per week per trainee (irrespective of leave absence and cover)

The aim of the *Accreditation Standards and Criteria for Training Networks and Sites* is to ensure that a minimum standard of facilities and networked governance is available for the delivery of networked training in radiation oncology. With respect to your request for the College to review the accreditation assessment recordings, it is to be noted that there have been no formal concerns raised by trainees who participated in the site assessment. The College Trainee Liaison Officer is a resource available to trainees to discuss any confidential concerns. The Trainee Liaison Officer's contact details are: tlo@ranzcr.edu.au

In addition, if you or the Head of Department would like to raise a formal complaint regarding the conduct of the accreditation assessment team, I would recommend that you do this following the College's Complaints process, and the issue will be handled as per established College guidelines. <https://www.ranzcr.com/make-a-complaint>

Unfortunately, in the absence of a formal complaint being made to the College currently, the ROETC, which holds ultimate governance over the accreditation process and outcomes, is unable to review and address this issue accordingly

Should you have any queries regarding accreditation, please contact Accreditation at accreditation@ranzcr.edu.au or phone +61 2 9268 9777.

Yours Sincerely,



Dr Yaw Chin
Chief Censor
Faculty Radiation Oncology

Cc: Dr Roland Yeghiaian-Alvandi, Head of Department
Ms Kate Lyons, Executive Director of Operations
Dr Campbell Tiley, Director of Cancer Services
Dr Steevie Chan, Director of Medical Services
Mr Scott McLachlan, Chief Executive
Dr Jane Ludbrook, Training Network Director
Ms Kylie Withnell, Education Support Officer