BASIC INFORMATION:

Duration of the elective: 1 month

Number of students: 1

Prerequisites: None

Location(s): Koç University Hospital, Department of Radiation Oncology

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Elective Director: Uğur Selek

Elective Faculty: Yasemin Bölükbaşı

Other specific contacts: Duygu Sezen, Nülifer Kılıç Durankuş, Eyüb Yaşar Akdemir, Şükran

Şenyürek

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

During Radiation Oncology elective rotation, medical students will have the opportunity to work closely with faculty members and physicians and to participate in clinical and academic activities. This elective rotation is appropriate both for students interested in applying for radiation oncology residency and for students who plan a career in a different specialty but would like to have an educational experience in radiation oncology.

After a brief introduction to Radiation Oncology in the first week, students attend outpatient clinics with tutors and discuss every case. On weekdays, students attend per day multidisciplinary morning meetings, mostly from 7:30 am to 9:00 am from Monday to Friday, in addition to 12.30 pm to 13.30pm on Tuesday and 13.30 pm-15.00 pm on Friday. They are also encouraged to join informed consent process, simulation, target and organ at risk delineation, treatment planning and discussion, and radiotherapy delivery setups and fractions for each case. The medical students are requested to read & study specific topics related with the patients seen in the clinics, and will be expected to participate the intradepartmental clinical team discussions with related feedbacks and questions. There are no nightshifts during the elective.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

At the end of the elective, a 5th year medical student will have a broad understanding on clinical terminology, and various cancer related indications of Radiation Oncology to improve his/her oncological perspective.

Specific objectives are;

...to understand and become familiar with various roles therapeutic radiation plays in the management of malignant diseases and benign conditions,

...to understand and become familiar with the steps involved in radiation therapy application [e/g initial evaluation, decision making, simulation, treatment planning and administration, potential acute and long term adverse effects –diagnosis and management, evaluations while on radiation treatment, follow up after treatment].

...to learn if the treatment aim is curative, palliative, definitive, consolidation, adjuvant or neoadjuvant for each case.

...to recognize the importance of the multidisciplinary management of cancer and the role of radiotherapy in this context.

...to have basic information about radiation types, their effects and radiobiological differences.

Learning Experiences: Students will be assigned to different attending/consultant/resident teams each day, in order to gain exposure to the evaluation and treatment of patients with various types of cancer. The student will also attend tumor boards, didactic sessions, and intradepartmental conferences. There are no overnight or weekend call responsibilities. Medical students will be assigned to attending teams at the beginning of each week.

ASSESSMENT OR EVALUATION:

Students will be observed directly by the attending physicians, consultants and residents with whom they are assigned. Student's knowledge, competencies including patient care, communication, professionalism and practice-based learning are observed throughout the elective. Although not graded, feedback on these competencies are provided continuously. Medical students are expected to present a given topic and a related case at the end of the elective. "KUSOM Clinical Performance Evaluation Form" is used for reporting.

Overall, assessment and evaluation will be continuous on an informal, daily basis, and be summarized at the end of the rotation. A formal written evaluation of each student will be prepared by the Course Director based upon observation and input from faculty and residents.

Attendance and participation will be noted.