## Course Objective:

### Material Covered:

The goal of the medical student elective is to provide a broad overview of clinical radiation oncology as it is practiced in the community. The emphasis of the elective will be on the clinical practice radiation oncology in regard to physical examination of the cancer patient, cross sectional anatomy as it pertains to radiation treatment planning, and general physician patient interaction. The student will spend the entire rotation working with Radiation Oncology Faculty, as residents to not rotate through in the Regional Care Centers. Students will be evaluated by faculty based on their general performance of clinical medicine during the rotation. There will be many opportunities to interact with MD Anderson Faculty from other oncologic disciplines as well, as all Regional Care Center clinics are run in a multidisciplinary fashion in close proximity.

### Skills Acquired:

Skills in oral and written presentations, assessing data and arriving at a diagnosis-problem solving, knowledge, and fund of information in the specialty of radiation oncology.

- The basic principles of radiation physics, radiobiology, and radiation safety;
- The clinical evaluation and staging of the patient with cancer;
- The role of radiotherapy in the overall management of the patient with cancer;
- The importance of a multidisciplinary approach to cancer management;
- The process by which treatment plans are generated from an understanding of tumor volume, normal tissue considerations, and natural history of diseases;
- The implementation and verification of treatment plans

### Activities Of Elective:

#### Number Of New Patients/Student/Week:

Not Applicable

#### Responsibilities Of Student For Assigned Patients:

| Does history/physical: | Yes |
| Who critiques: | Attending |
| Follows patients, with appropriate notes as needed: | Yes |
| Who supervises: | Attending |
| Does student see ambulatory patients: | Yes |

### Scheduled Duties of Student:

| Frequency of rounds on patients: | Weekly |
| Presents patients to preceptor or attending physician: | Yes, weekly |
| Weekly schedule of required teaching sessions: | Yes, attends clinics and conferences daily |

### Describe Optional Rounds And Activities, If Any:

**Medical student responsibilities**

1. Attend patient consults, follow-ups, simulations, and weekly management visits.
2. Attend MD Anderson Interdisciplinary Rounds at 7:30am on Fridays.
3. Attend tumor boards at community hospitals.
4. Perform selected assigned tasks independently (i.e. general contouring of structures during virtual simulation).
5. Spend time working with Radiation Therapists and Dosimetrist in their respective disciplines.
6. Follow at least one new patient from consultation, simulation, treatment planning, and treatment start per week.
Other Required Activities:

| Reading/Review of current literature | Yes |
| Writing or Presenting a paper        | Yes |

How Is Student Evaluated:

A student’s performance will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Gathering data by history and physical examination
- Skills in oral and written presentations
- Assessing data and arriving at a diagnosis – problem solving
- Evidence of preparation and outside reading
- Work habits and personal qualities
- Interpersonal relationships with other members of the health care team
- Knowledge and fund of information

Who Evaluates Students:

Attending physician and Medical Student Director

Unique Features Of This Elective:

- Basic principles of radiation oncology.
- Clinical evaluation and staging of the patient with cancer.
- Role of radiotherapy in the overall management of the patient with cancer.
- Importance of multidisciplinary approach to cancer management problems.