Uncertainties in cervical cancer radiotherapy and management strategies

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Locally advanced cervical cancer is treated curatively with a combination of chemotherapy, external beam radiotherapy and brachytherapy. Recent advances in the use of intensity modulated radiotherapy and image-guided brachytherapy with interstitial needles are improving outcomes in terms of survival and toxicity. However, increasing treatment delivery complexity highlights the importance of understanding anatomy, areas at risk of microscopic spread, pelvic organ motion and impact on patient experience including long term psychological impact. Strategies to minimise these uncertainties are therefore imperative to ensure safe implementation of these new treatment technologies.

Biography

Gemma Eminowicz is a Gynecological Clinical Oncologist and Brachytherapy Lead at Imperial College London Healthcare NHS Trust, UK. She is also a Senior Clinical Lecturer at Imperial College London. Having undergone oncology training in Hampshire, Dorset and London and completed the Fellowship of Royal College of Radiology (Clinical Oncology) in 2011, Dr Gemma Eminowicz pursued a career specializing in gynecological oncology and brachytherapy. She undertook an MD (Res) within the field of Cervical Radiation at University College London which was awarded in 2016. This two-year research degree studied the impact of target volume delineation variation and pelvic organ motion during radiotherapy on dose delivered in cervical cancer leading to 5 publications. During this MD(Res) Gemma undertook a placement at AKH, Vienna, under the supervision of Professor Richard Potter. In addition to her clinical work she actively participates in international radiotherapy trials for gynecological cancer and is a member of the TMG and RTTQA team for INTERLACE. She is also Chief Investigator of a study investigating the use of PET-MRI in chemoradiation for cervical cancer and is a regular reviewer for high impact radiotherapy and gynecology journals.

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