

## **Trinity College Dublin Announces New Run of Free Online Course on Radiation Oncology for Cancer Patients, their families and other health professionals.**

Trinity College Dublin is delighted to announce a second run of its free, online course "[From Diagnosis to Survivorship: An introduction to Radiation Oncology](#)," from the discipline of Radiation Therapy. Since 2014, Trinity has reached over 130,000 learners from more than 100 countries through seven free online courses with FutureLearn, the social learning platform.

### **Learn why radiation therapy is a safe and effective way to treat cancer**

Starting on the 21<sup>st</sup> of January 2019, this new free online course is open to cancer patients, their family members and friends who are interested in learning more about radiation therapy as a treatment for cancer. Healthcare professionals outside of the field of radiation oncology are also very welcome to join this course.

### **Explore radiation therapy with experts and patient advocates**

Trinity academics in radiation therapy have come together with experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency, the European Cancer Organisation, the Irish Cancer Society and Targeting Cancer to demystify radiation therapy as a cancer treatment. The course explores radiation therapy as a cancer treatment through the experience of two patient advocates who tell their stories of radiation therapy as a treatment. The science underpinning radiation therapy as a treatment is discussed throughout the course.

Associate Professor Michelle Leech explains:

"Radiation therapy is indicated in the management of between 50-60% of all cancers. 40% of all cancer cures have radiation therapy as part of their management, which is a phenomenal rate that most people are not aware of. The aim of this course is to bring the potential of radiation therapy as a cancer management option into the public arena as well as providing clear information to patients and their families about what to expect if they are attending for radiation therapy"

At the end of this two week course learners will be able to:

- Describe the role of radiation oncology in managing cancer
- Identify the radiation therapy patient pathway
- Recognise the roles of the health care professionals involved in radiation therapy
- Discuss the safe use of radiation therapy in cancer care
- Explain the basic science behind radiation therapy
- Describe state of the art radiation therapy, such as personalised medicine
- Discuss upcoming biological and technological developments in radiation therapy

Register today on [Futurelearn](#), the social learning platform, to access this free online course starting on the 21<sup>st</sup> of January 2019.

Open to anyone, wherever you are in the world, now you can take part in a Trinity education from the comfort of your own home.

Contact Michelle Leech (LEECHM@tcd.ie) or Claire Poole (POOLEC@tcd.ie) for further information

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