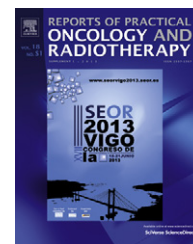


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## Plenary session “Reconciling professional work and academic development: Realistic opportunities”

### Update in academic training and education



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The academic part of the general training in medicine is frequently forgotten. It is understood that the training and medical education are more geared toward clinical and research aspects. Optionally you can also include management components. Due to the rapid change and evolution of knowledge in medicine, the update is critical.

The lifelong learning process in the health care area, linking the official professorships has been of great importance. This has allowed the union and coordination of care activities with teaching and research. Moreover, the figure of associate professor allowed the access to teaching to many prestigious professionals in care and clinical activities.

The continuous medical education in the academic field comprises two main areas.

#### **Area of teaching training**

Docent activities comprise different areas of importance: teaching methodology, definition of objectives, learning resources, evaluation tests, etc. The ICE (Institute of Educational Sciences) of each university provides a good range of training in this field that is frequently misunderstood.

#### **Area of research**

It is important to keep the research training actualized: Every radiation oncologist must be competent in basic, translational or clinical research. Institutes and Research Foundation in hospitals and universities often offer good training programs, both in the general field or applied techniques.

#### **The academic training in the curriculum vitae (CV)**

The staff updated curriculum must demonstrate continuous training in various fields within it. The most important are: scientific publications in journals, book chapters, attendance and participation in conferences and scientific meetings, clinical and educational training courses, visits and stays at foreign institutions, doctoral theses and healthcare experience and background. They should not forget awards and scholarships for research projects.

#### **The academic environment of radiation oncology**

Our specialty is mainly practiced in university hospitals or high level general institutions. Most departments contribute actively in teaching and training in the field of Radiation Oncology. The pre-graduate medical education comprises some general teaching in the topic of Radiology and later on Clinical Oncology and Radiotherapy.

It is important to maintain an updated academic training when the Service has accreditation for post-graduate training (MIR). Fortunately, the majority of Radiation Oncology Services in Spain offer training to obtain the degree of medical specialist.

This encourages the academic training in our specialty. It is therefore essential to maintain and increase undergraduate and postgraduate education in radiation oncology services. Recognition of teaching assistants by the universities is also a great factor for stimulation.