



Welcome to this special edition Safer Radiotherapy publication - providing feedback from the recent National Safer Radiotherapy publication survey.

Further information on the national patient safety initiative can be found [here](#), or by the QR code on this page.

Please feel free to share your thoughts with the radiotherapy (RT) team radiotherapy@ukhsa.gov.uk.



Safer Radiotherapy publications:

UKHSA receives voluntary, anonymised patient safety radiotherapy event (RTE) data from all UK NHS radiotherapy providers and the independent sector. Working with **The Patient Safety in Radiotherapy Steering Group**, UKHSA produce a number of publications to support the community in learning from RTE. These publications include:

- **E-bulletins** which provide key messages on the national patient safety initiative for the RT community on a four monthly basis
- **Triannual RTE analysis and learning reports** designed to share key learning from the analysis of RTE reports to RT professionals on a four monthly basis
- **Biennial RTE analysis and learning reports** produced to disseminate learning from RTE to RT professionals every 2 years
- National Annual Aggregate RTE data, produced to support local RTE analysis is available via requests to RTedata@ukhsa.gov.uk

National Safer Radiotherapy publication survey:

A survey of the Safer Radiotherapy readership was undertaken between 6 March and 18 April 2025. The purpose of the survey was to:







- better understand readership needs,
- fully appreciate publication use and
- provide an opportunity for the community to inform the review of the Safer Radiotherapy publication series.

The Survey was sent out using multiple distribution routes, including via the professional body heads of service networks, professional mail bases and the UKHSA Safer Radiotherapy e-subscribe.

A total of 147 responses were received. Of these, 61 were incomplete and not included in the results. Therefore a total of 86 complete survey responses were analysed and summarised within the results section of this publication.

Sincere thanks to all who participated in the survey and thank you for your continued commitment to patient safety in Radiotherapy.

Results

 <p>88.4% of respondents were familiar with the Safer RT publications and have accessed this year</p>	 <p>Majority of respondents receive publications via e-subscribe</p>
 <p>64.5% of respondents used the Safer RT publications as a learning tool</p>	 <p>Clinical scientist /physicist were the largest proportion of respondents at 34.2%</p>
<p>Content identified as beneficial:</p>  <p>Practical examples, learning from good practice, national analysis, case studies, analysis of contributory factors</p>	<p>Areas for Improvements:</p>  <p>publication directory, brachytherapy analysis, analytic methodology</p>

Next steps

- Maintain Safer Radiotherapy publications as survey demonstrated national utilisation and application
- E-bulletin will be reviewed and updated to enhance approachability for the wider radiotherapy community, share practical learning and minimise detail identified as having limited benefit
- Triannual and biennial RTE analysis and learning reports will be reviewed and updated to include adaptive, focused national analysis and minimise detail identified as having limited benefit
- Consideration of updates to the next biennial RTE analysis and learning report will be shared
- **Learning resources** to be reviewed and updated to better support RT community
- A summary of Safer Radiotherapy publication contents will be developed and made available to aid navigation
- The National Annual Aggregate RTE data will continue to be available by requests to RTedata@ukhsa.gov.uk

Please feel free to share any thoughts for further development of the Safer Radiotherapy publications with the RT team radiotherapy@ukhsa.gov.uk