

SASCRO Statement of the presence of Radiation Oncologist during administration of 8 Gy as a single fraction for palliation

The SASCRO Committee recognizes that importance of dose verification by medical physics in the administration of radiation therapy and takes note of DOH Group II licence agreements as below.

The clinical opinion of the SASCRO Committee is the situation where of 8 Gy is given as a single fraction for palliative reasons, the clinically appropriate tumour volumes as determined at mark-up will indeed be treated. The reasons are that larger margins are used in palliative treatment and the Oncologist is influenced by the site of the symptoms. The dose used is also well within the tolerance of normal tissues. In addition, there will be logistical difficulties if the Clinical and Radiation Oncologist has to be present for the administration of this treatment which adversely influence effective treatment of symptomatic patients.

The SASCRO believes that the need to be present during the administration of 8 Gy as a single fraction be at the discretion of the treating Clinical and Radiation Oncologist

SASCRO Committee
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Appendix

Dept of Health GROUP II license requirements:

- d. Dose verification, applicable to the relevant technology and deemed by the resident medical physicist to be an acceptable form of verification, is performed on all patients receiving megavoltage photon therapy within 7 days after the first fraction or before 20% of the total prescribed dose has been delivered (whichever is sooner). Deviations of more than 10% from the calculated dose must be reported to the medical physicist immediately.