Targeted Treatments for Improvement and Challenges in the Movement to Independence Radiation Oncology Practice

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Abstract
Radiation oncology residents and junior attending have noted widespread shortcomings in residency training that impede the transition from training to autonomous practice. In addition to general autonomy, recurring themes include technical and nontechnical skill competence, including leadership, mentoring, and education. Examples of technical skill proficiency include reviewing treatment plans and verifying images. Though many different approaches have been looked into, many of them may be challenging to put into practice or are not publicly available. We seek to compile the essential interventions that have been looked at along with the commonly mentioned obstacles in the transition to independent radiation oncology practice.

Keywords: Residency • Radiation oncology • Career preparedness • Transition to practice

Introduction
To prepare doctors for independent practice in a particular specialty, medical residency training offers in-depth, graduate-level medical education. However, recent years have seen a decline in the confidence of trainees and graduates in particular abilities that are essential for independent practice. The problems are frequently brought on by a lack of real-world experience and autonomy during training, prior to taking on the full load of an attending physician. Recent residency graduates in radiation oncology have noted widespread shortcomings in radiation oncology residency training that impede the transition from training to autonomous practice. In addition to general autonomy, recurring themes include technical and nontechnical skill competence, including leadership, mentoring, and education. Examples of technical skill proficiency include reviewing treatment plans and verifying images. Though many different approaches have been looked into, many of them may be challenging to put into practice or are not publicly available. We seek to compile the essential interventions that have been looked at along with the commonly mentioned obstacles in the transition to independent radiation oncology practice.