



Regional Training Course on Contouring on Cervical Cancer, Breast Cancer and Prostatic Cancer

Hosted by

The Government of the Dominican Republic

through the

CDD Radioterapia

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

17 to 21 November 2025

Ref. No.: TN-RLA6092-2503500

Information Sheet

Purpose

The Regional Training Course aims to significantly elevate the proficiency of radiation oncologists in Latin America in the precise contouring of the most common cancer sites, for optimal radiotherapy treatment. By focusing on the most common cancers in the region, the workshop seeks to improve treatment accuracy, enhance patient outcomes, and minimize adverse effects. Additionally, it strives to foster a collaborative environment where participants can exchange knowledge, develop standardized protocols, and build a supportive network for continuous professional development.

Working Language(s)

The working language(s) of the event will be Spanish.

Deadline for Nominations

Nominations received after 5 September 2025 will not be considered.

Project Background

Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) is one of the developing regions where pathologies linked to social, geographical, and economic factors are associated with the leading causes of cancer due to existing health programs' deficiencies, cultural and environmental factors. Cancer is reported in all the countries around the world, with different statistics that have become a challenge for health systems. GLOBOCAN, an international database of incidence, morbidity, and mortality associated with cancer, takes information from different countries worldwide. During 2022, it reported an incidence of 1.5 million new cancer cases and 700,000 deaths associated in LAC, with an incidence rate of 186.5 per 100,000 people and a mortality rate of 86.6 per 100,000 people¹. The five most common cancer diagnoses in South America and the Caribbean include prostate, breast, colorectal, lung, and stomach cancers. Cervical cancer is also at the top of cancer incidence, mainly in Central America. LAC countries have primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention programs in their work plans for health care. In LAC, the gross imbalance between the high number of patients and the limited number of centers that offer these services, as well as: (i) the lack of training of professionals involved, such as technicians, medical physicists, and radiation-oncologists; (ii) the sub-optimization of the use of treatment equipment; (iii) the lack or limited access to quality assurance protocols in daily practice; (iv) the heterogeneity of the region; all cause a great problem and a loss of life. Radiotherapy is part of the cancer multidisciplinary treatment, but statistics reflect the limited access of patients and long timeouts for the beginning of treatments at optimal times. Traditionally, fractionation schemes prolong the stay and waiting time of patients in radiotherapy centres, particularly in low-income countries where the number of MV equipment is low. Hypofractionation is a cost-effective mechanism used to treat a higher number of patients and helps to reduce the waiting time for treatment and stay outside the patients' places of origin. The regional training course aims to address these disparities by enhancing the skills and knowledge of radiation oncologists in accurate contouring of most common cancer, particularly for hypofractionated schemes. This will improve treatment outcomes and reduce side effects for patients with common cancers in the region. By focusing on prevalent cancers and promoting standardized protocols, the workshop seeks to optimize the use of treatment equipment and resources. Additionally, it will foster collaboration among healthcare professionals, support the implementation of quality assurance measures, and contribute to better patient outcomes and reduced mortality rates.

Expected Outputs

Expected outputs from this training course are multifaceted and will significantly contribute to the participants' professional development and the broader field of oncology.

- **Enhanced Skills and Knowledge:** Participants will gain practical skills in contouring most common cancer sites.
- **Standardized Protocols:** Development and dissemination of standardized contouring protocols tailored to the regional context, ensuring consistency and quality in radiotherapy practices.
- **Improved Treatment Outcomes:** Better accuracy in contouring will result in improved treatment outcomes and reduced side effects for patients with common cancers in the region.
- **Networking and Collaboration:** Establishment of a network of professionals who can share best practices, support each other, and collaborate on future projects and initiatives.
- **Increased Capacity:** Enhanced capacity of radiotherapy centres to handle a higher number of patients efficiently, reducing waiting times and improving access to care
- **Development of first Contouring educational modules in Spanish using NA-IAEA web platform Human Health Campus**

Scope and Nature

This Regional Training Course targets an audience of Radiation Oncologists working in operational radiotherapy departments providing radiotherapy treatment in Cervical cancer, Breast Cancer and Prostatic cancer. It will focus on contouring best practices. Pre-homework will be sent to participants and will consist of selected cases to contour along with the relevant clinical information. Lectures for best contouring practices and guidelines will be provided during the course, cases submitted will be analysed and reviewed, compared with international experts' contours and discussion on specific controversial structures will be held. Participants are expected to bring their own laptop so that they can access the platform and complete the contouring exercise during the Regional Training Course. In case one of the participants does not have a laptop, he/she is required to inform the IAEA about this prior to the course.

Participation

Course participants need to form part of the IAEA Technical Cooperation project RLA6092. Participating Member States are Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

IAEA will convene a broad range of stakeholders:

1. Radiation Oncologists involved in contouring of breast, cervix and prostate cancer with at least 3 years of working as a specialist.
2. IAEA technical officers.
3. IAEA collaborators- individual experts.

Participants' Qualifications and Experience

Radiation oncologists from participating Member States with a minimum of three years of experience in treating patients with prostate, cervical, and breast cancer and working in the public health sector.

Each participating country is invited to nominate one candidate.

Application Procedure

Candidates wishing to apply for this event should follow the steps below:

1. Access the InTouch+ home page (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>) using the candidate's existing Nucleus username and password. If the candidate is not a registered Nucleus user, she/he must create a Nucleus account (<https://websso.iaea.org/IM/UserRegistrationPage.aspx>) before proceeding with the event application process below.
2. On the InTouch + platform, the candidate must:
 - a. Finalize or update her/his personal details, provide sufficient information to establish the required qualifications regarding education, language skills and work experience ('Profile' tab) and upload relevant supporting documents;
 - b. Download and complete the [Designation of Beneficiary and Emergency Contact Form](#), and upload to InTouch+ ('Profile' tab under the personal section) specifying the document name. If already provided, kindly discard this step; and
 - c. Search for the relevant technical cooperation event (EVT2503500) under the 'My Eligible Events' tab, answer the mandatory questions and lastly submit the application to the required authority.

NOTE: Completed applications need to be approved by the relevant national authority, i.e. the National Liaison Office, and submitted to the IAEA through the established official channels by the provided designation deadline.

For additional support on how to apply for an event, please refer to the [InTouch+ Help page](#). Any issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be addressed to InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

Should online application submission not be possible, candidates may download the nomination form for the training course from the [IAEA website](#).

NOTE: A medical certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner dated not more than four months prior to starting date of the event must be submitted by candidates when applying for a) events with a duration exceeding one month, and/or b) all candidates over the age of 65 regardless of the event

duration.

Administrative and Financial Arrangements

Nominating authorities will be informed in due course of the names of the candidates who have been selected, and will at that time be informed of the procedure to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Selected participants will receive an allowance from the IAEA sufficient to cover their costs of lodging, daily subsistence and miscellaneous expenses. They will also receive either a round-trip air ticket based on the most direct and economical route between the airport nearest their residence and the airport nearest the duty station through the IAEA's travel agency AX Travel Management, or a travel allowance, or they will be reimbursed travel by car/bus/train in accordance with IAEA rules for non-staff travel.

Disclaimer of Liability

The organizers of the event do not accept liability for the payment of any cost or compensation that may arise from damage to or loss of personal property, or from illness, injury, disability or death of a participant while he/she is travelling to and from or attending the course, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in approving his/her participation, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks.

Note for female participants

Any woman engaged by the IAEA for work or training should notify the IAEA on becoming aware that she is pregnant.

The Board of Governors of the IAEA approved new International Basic Safety Standards for Protection against Ionizing Radiation and for the Safety of Radiation Sources. The Standards deal specifically with the occupational exposure conditions of female workers by requiring, inter alia, that a female worker should, on becoming aware that she is pregnant, notify her employer in order that her working conditions may be modified, if necessary. This notification shall not be considered a reason to exclude her from work; however, her working conditions, with respect to occupational exposure shall be adapted with a view to ensuring that her embryo or foetus be afforded the same broad level of protection as required for members of the public.

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