



# BRACHYTHERAPY

## GEC-ESTRO Gastro-Intestinal

### GEC-ESTRO Gastro-Intestinal (GI) WG highlights of activities

As in so many other areas of medicine the GI GEC working group's activities have been affected by the global pandemic in 2020.

The annual contact brachytherapy training course at Clatterbridge hospital could not take place in person so was not run in 2020. A presentation on Contact Brachytherapy was given as an ESTRO symposium webinar and the link is available here <https://www.estro.org/library/item/5814/the-treatment-of-accessible-lower-rectal-tumours--superficial-skin-cancers-and-breast-iort-using-a-l>. A virtual meeting discussing the role of contact brachytherapy in rectal cancer will be held by the Royal Society of Medicine in March 2021 <https://www.rsm.ac.uk/events/surgery/2020-21/sup04/>. The ICONe sub-group aim to meet virtually around the time of the next ESTRO meeting to update on contact brachytherapy.

The OPERA study has closed to recruitment and results are expected in a year when data matures. The ICONe group are collating the outcomes of patients treated with contact brachytherapy and short course radiotherapy from 5 international centres for publication and presentation. 5 centres are contributing to the Guildford database for rectal brachytherapy outcomes and we encourage more sites to enter their data at [www.colorectaldatabase.com](http://www.colorectaldatabase.com). The CITRuS trial examining PROMs in colorectal cancer patients, including those treated with contact brachytherapy is scheduled to open in January 2021.

The consensus guidelines for contact brachytherapy are being reviewed and those for HDR rectal brachytherapy are in development. The GI GEC group now covers oesophageal, biliary and liver brachytherapy and we look forward to developing more teaching resources and studies in these areas.



**Chair: Alexandra Steward**