TARGET GROUP
This course is aimed primarily at trainee radiation oncologists. It may also be of interest to radiation physicists and technologists who would like an overview of current clinical practice in the major treatment sites.

COURSE AIM
• The course focuses on the concept of evidence-based medicine and describes the methodology underlying clinical research. Areas of biomedical statistics necessary for participants to develop skills of critical reading and presentation of research evidence will be covered.
• The course will explore the state-of-the-art of radiation therapy in the major tumour sites: breast, oesophagus and stomach, rectum, head and neck, lung, CNS and gynaecological malignancies. A separate session will deal with the major issues in palliative radiation therapy.
• The clinical component of the course will comprise a combination of lectures and case discussions. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss clinical scenarios in small groups before the management options are then discussed in the light of the research evidence in plenary sessions.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
By the end of this course participants should be able to:
• Identify those aspects of current radiotherapy practice which are supported by the highest levels of evidence and those which are not.
• Outline the evidence supporting the use of altered fractionation regimens and combined-modality treatment.
• Critically evaluate an oral or written scientific presentation.

COURSE CONTENT
• General introduction to evidence-based medicine
• The terminology of radiation therapy, errors and uncertainties in daily practice
• Statistics for the radiation oncologist, how to describe and interpret data from clinical trials and meta-analyses
• Prostate cancer
• Lung cancer
• Rectal cancer
• Head and neck cancer
• CNS malignancies
• Gynaecological malignancies
• Breast cancer
• Gastric and oesophageal cancer
• Radiation therapy in palliative care.

PREREQUISITES
Before commencing this course participants should:
• Review their institution’s radiotherapy treatment protocols in those areas covered by this course and be prepared to apply and discuss these in case discussions.
• Try to distinguish those areas of their practice that can be justified by the available evidence from those where the evidence-basis is uncertain.
• Be prepared to ask questions and contribute to discussions.
**TEACHING METHODS**
- 31 hours of lectures and case-based discussion
- 9 hours of case-based discussion in small groups.

The Faculty will present a summary of the available evidence underlying current radiotherapy practice in the major treatment sites and will identify and discuss those areas of practice for which the evidence remains limited. The application of scientific evidence to clinical practice will be illustrated through the use of case-based discussions in which participants will be encouraged to discuss and present practical solutions to clinical scenarios.

**METHODS OF ASSESSMENT**
- MCQ
- Evaluation form.

**KEY WORDS**
Evidence-based medicine, quality of evidence, descriptive statistics, clinical trial, meta-analysis, statistical significance, clinical significance, error, bias, randomisation, stratification, endpoints, uncertainties in clinical practice, therapeutic ratio (gain), target volumes, GTV, CTV, PTV, external beam radiotherapy, brachytherapy, image-guided radiotherapy (IGRT), intensity-modulated radiotherapy (IMRT), prostate cancer, lung cancer, rectal cancer, head and neck cancer, breast cancer, gynaecological cancer, gastric cancer, oesophageal cancer, CNS malignancies, palliation in advanced and metastatic disease.

**PARTICIPANTS SHOULD REGISTER ONLINE AT: WWW.ESTRO.ORG/SCHOOL**

These pages offer the guarantee of secured online payments. The system will seamlessly redirect you to the secured website of OGONE (see www.ogone.be for more details) to settle your registration fee.

If online registration is not possible please contact us:
ESTRO OFFICE
Rue Martin V, 40 • B-1200 Brussels
Tel.: +32 2 775 93 39 • Fax: +32 2 779 54 94
E-mail: education@estro.org

**REGISTRATION FEES**

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<th>EARLY FEE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-training members*</td>
<td>450 €</td>
<td>625 €</td>
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<tr>
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<td>600 €</td>
<td>725 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non members</td>
<td>750 €</td>
<td>850 €</td>
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*Radiation Therapist (RTT) members are eligible for the in-training fee

The fee includes the course material, coffees, lunches, and the social event.

Reduced fees are available for ESTRO members working in economically less competitive countries. Check the eligible countries and the selection criteria on the website of the ESTRO School.

ESTRO goes green: Please note that the course material will be available online. No course book will be provided during the courses.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT ARE REQUIRED. ON-SITE REGISTRATION WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE.

Since the number of participants is limited, late registrants are advised to contact the ESTRO office before payment, to inquire about availability of places. Access to homework and/or course material will become available upon receipt of full payment.

INSURANCE AND CANCELLATION

The organiser does not accept liability for individual medical, travel or personal insurance. Participants are strongly advised to take out their own personal insurance policies.

In case an unforeseen event would force ESTRO to cancel the meeting, the Society will reimburse the full registration fees to the participants, ESTRO ESTRO will not be responsible for the refund of travel and accommodation costs.

In case of cancellation, full refund of the registration fee minus 15% for administrative costs may be obtained up to three months before the course and 50% of the fee up to one month before the course. No refund will be made if the cancellation request is postmarked less than one month before the start of the course.

WWW.ESTRO.ORG/SCHOOL