

Welcome Address

It is a great pleasure to host the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) **“Regional Training Course on Radiotherapy Techniques with Emphasis on Imaging and Treatment Planning, RAS6054”**, at King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre (KFSH&RC), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from 09 to 13 October 2011. I am delighted to welcome each participant from the different Arab-Asia (ARASIA) countries and our distinguished experts and guests to this event. The KFSH&RC is honored to have been selected as the hosting institution for this training course and to be part of the cause and effort to improve the understanding and implementation of imaging and treatment planning techniques for effective radiotherapy treatment of cancer patients in the ARASIA member states.

The program activities will be led by select faculty members including IAEA experts and other experienced speakers in the fields of Radiotherapy Physics and Medical Dosimetry, and we are fortunate to have their respective professional contributions for our didactic lectures and hands-on sessions. I believe that our joint presence at this gathering, clearly demonstrates an exclusive unity to contribute for the improvement of healthcare methods within the framework of the IAEA technical cooperation training program.

I would like to extend special thanks to the organizers of this training course: the IAEA, KACST, and KFSH&RC. They have all been of invaluable help to us in the preparations for this event. I am personally glad to have been designated by IAEA as Course Director and grateful for the continued IAEA's recognition of and trust in our expertise and the services that we provide here at KFSH&RC.

While the planned program activities for this 5-day event certainly will take us considerably further in our understanding of state-of-the-art approaches in clinical radiation therapy physics, I am certain that this training course will mark the beginning rather than the end of our work of contributing to the increasingly important field of Imaging and Treatment Planning in Radiotherapy.

Thank you and welcome to all of you!

Sincerely,



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