# IAEA Scientific Forum CANCER in Developing Countries Facing the Challenge Vienna, 21-22 September 2010

# Session IV IAEA's Role in the Fight against Cancer in the Developing Countries

Belal A. Moftah, PhD, FCCPM

Chairman, Department of Biomedical Physics King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

### Comments/Recommendations

- Recycling of equipment (radiotherapy, radiology,...
  - Eg. KFSH&RC→ CT's, TeleCobalt unit; Varian 600C linac; 2 more Varian linacs (2300C/D & 2300EX); NGH: 2 linacs; KSU: TeleCobalt
- PACT and Regional Agreements
  - Sharing experiences, guidelines, ...
- Oncology Centers of Excellence: "developed centers within developing countries"
  - Availability of advanced equipment and techniques as well as qualified staff
  - Proximity to other neighboring developing countries or oncology centers

### Saudi Arabia

- Population ~30 Million
- 25 Cancer Centers
- 13 Radiotherapy Centers (+ 5 planned)
- Launched Saudi Cancer Registry
- Professional Societies:
  - Saudi Oncology Society (SOS)
  - Saudi Medical Physics Society (SAMPS)



### KFSH&RC

Riyadh

Example of a developed center within a developing country/region



## King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre (KFSH&RC)

- Leading cancer center in the region
- 3000 new cancer patients per year
- ◆ It has all cancer treatments: palliative to BMT; 3D to IMRT and IGRT.
- Qualified staff (oncologists, medical physicists, radiologists, technologists, ...)
- Radiation Oncology services started in 1976, 1<sup>st</sup> in the region
- Advanced diagnostic and treatment machines (PET/CT, SPECT, CyberKnife, TomoTherapy, RapidArc, ...)

## "Historic Event @ KFSH&RC"

Inauguration: March 2009
Treatment: May 2009

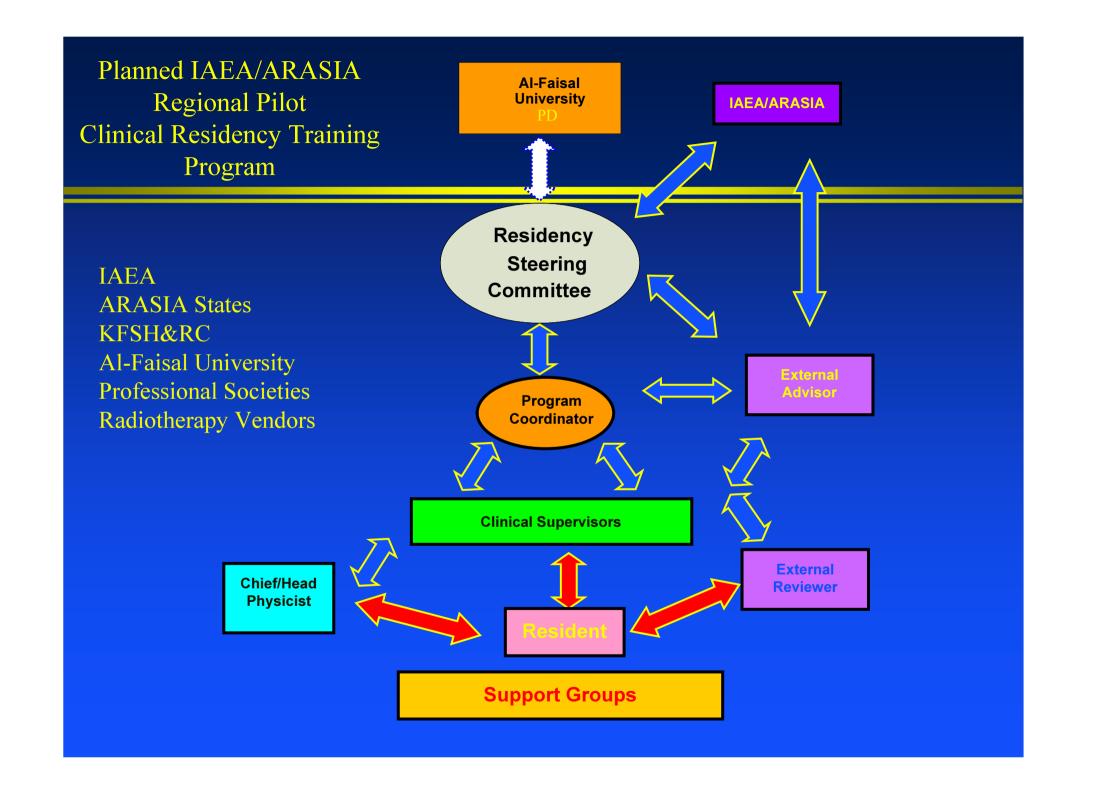






#### IAEA/KFSH&RC joint activities

• KFSH&RC has collaborated with the IAEA in various activities to develop national capacity in cancer treatment and diagnosis within Saudi Arabia and in other neighboring developing countries in the field of radiotherapy, nuclear medicine, quality assurance, medical physics and other related fields.











### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RADIATION MEDICINE

CLINICAL APPLICATIONS AND INNOVATIVE APPROACHES

King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia













#### IAEA/KFSH&RC joint activities

- Training of fellows from other developing countries
- Establishment of King Abdullah Oncology Center and Proton Carbon Ion Therapy facility
- Provision of SSDL and TLD services to the Kingdom and some neighboring countries
- Establishment of IAEA QUATRO & QUATRIL activities in the Kingdom
- Contribution to various IAEA expert panels and missions, e.g., IAEA Comparative Assessment of Nuclear Technologies

### Comments/Recommendations

- Guidance for Radiotherapy Techniques and Machines
  - Cobalt vs. Linacs debate
    - Initial and Operational Costs; Preventive Maintenance; Power requirements/stability; Reliability and Quality of treatment (conformity...); Staffing/Expert requirements; Patient workload; Safety & Security Issues; ...
  - No one single answer, but "Guidelines"
  - Simple single-energy linac or Advanced TeleCobalt Unit
- Tender Specs and Maintenance Contracts
  - Developing countries installed but not used RT
     equipment for years (Eg. African Country: LDR Brachytherapy Unit and RT Simulator—not used for 6 years)