

Peer Review File

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Reviewer A

A nice editorial on a paper that studied the feasibility of patient follow-up after palliative radiotherapy. Follow-up of patients after palliative radiotherapy is an important but difficult task in both clinical practice and prospective studies. Only a minor point:

Comment 1: Line 69 “The highest percentage of the calls taking please within the....” “taking place” may be proper words.

Reply 1: Thank you for your careful review of the editorial. I have corrected the mistake you pointed out.

Changes in the text: ‘please’ was changed into ‘place’

Reviewer B

This editorial is written about ‘Surveillance of Patients after Palliative Radiation, how to make it feasible’.

Post-irradiation follow-up by radiation oncologists tends to be insufficient. Although the article showed that follow-up by nurses using the phone is effective, it was also noted at the end that this would be difficult given the nurses’ workload.

This article addressed one of the current issues surrounding palliative radiotherapy. I didn’t find anything that needed to revise.

Reply: Thank you for your kind review of this editorial.

Reviewer C

I have not seen the companion article but this appears to be a thoughtful and helpful reflection on it. I like the balance of scenario-setting, article summary and suggestions for addressing the problems encountered in the study.

However, there are several minor issues with word-choice and English expression. The only other observation is that it would be appropriate to explicitly state earlier that the follow-up nurse was from the RT department as this was central to the

difficulties encountered and discussed.

Reply: Thank you for your kind and thorough review of this editorial.

Comment 1: There are several minor issues with word-choice and English expression.

Reply 1: Thank you for pointing this out, I'm very sorry for these mistakes. I have reviewed the text and have hopefully found all spelling and grammar errors.

Changes in the text: several small changes in text (made with track changes).

Comment 2: The only other observation is that it would be appropriate to explicitly state earlier that the follow-up nurse was from the RT department as this was central to the difficulties encountered and discussed.

Reply 2: The sentence in line 47 was adapted to 'Herein lies the value of interventions such as the one described by McLean-Thomas et al., who performed a feasibility trial of a nurse-led surveillance program for patients treated with PRT for painful bone metastases, organized by the radiotherapy department [reference not available]'

Changes in the text: 'organized by the radiotherapy department' was added to the sentence to indicate that the nurse was from the RT department.