

Radiation Oncology Knowledge Dispersion Seminar

14th February 2026

Background to this seminar

In October 2025, two radiation oncologists and two medical physicists from government institutions underwent intensive two-week observership training at the National Cancer Center Hospital East, Japan. Their training covered three advanced radiotherapy techniques (a) stereotactic body radiation therapy (SBRT), (b) 4DCT and respiratory gating, and (c) surface guided radiation therapy (SGRT) alongside quality assurance, patient care, and management. Following this training, the participants developed SBRT protocols for these techniques.

On Saturday, 14th February 2026, leading experts gathered at Radisson Blu Hotel Chennai City Centre in Chennai for a seminar dedicated to mainstreaming advanced radiotherapy techniques. This event, organized by the Tamil Nadu Health Systems Project (TNHSP) and the JICA TNNCD (Oncology) Project*, aimed to disseminate newly developed SBRT protocols and foster collaboration among specialists, technologists involved in radiation oncology treatment provision.

Release of SOP

The day began with the welcome remarks by Dr. S. Vineeth I.A.S., Project Director (PD), TNHSP. The PD stressed the importance of this knowledge and experience sharing initiative for mainstreaming of advanced radiotherapy techniques learned in Japan. He also pointed out that this is the first opportunity where radiation oncologists, medical physicists, and radiotherapy technologists across the state sit together to exchange knowledge.

Then, PD together with the trained experts presented the SBRT protocol booklet to Dr. E. Theranirajan, Additional Director, Directorate of Medical Education and Research (DME). The Additional Director, then gave a keynote speech and emphasizing the great value of documented protocols as a government initiative in improving cancer patient outcomes.

Clinical Sessions

The clinical session featured a series of presentations on SBRT, SGRT & 4D CT techniques for various organ-specific tumors. The protocols for these technique and workflow were jointly presented by (Prof) Dr. R. Ramya, Professor & HOD of Radiation Oncology from Tamil Nadu Government Multi Super Specialty Hospital, by (Prof) Dr. Srinivasan, Radiation Oncologist, and Mr. Senthil, Medical Physicist, from Government Arignar Anna Memorial Cancer Hospital. and Mrs. S. Renugadevi, Assistant Professor of Radiology Physics (Medical Physicist) from Coimbatore Medical College Hospital. Each presentation was followed by a Q & A and discussion. Members emphasized the importance of uniform access to



Welcome address by the PD, TNHSP



Release of protocols handbook to AD, DME



Presentation on SBRT



Presentation on 4DCT techniques & SGRT

treatment planning systems and contouring stations to ensure consistency and efficiency across departments. It was agreed that structured training programs are essential to build expertise in stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) and stereotactic body radiotherapy (SBRT). The forum recommended regular virtual tumor board meetings to enhance collaboration among oncologists, radiologists, surgeons, and physicists. Regular audits and QA reviews were proposed to monitor adherence to protocols and maintain high standards of care. Practical workshops were strongly endorsed as a way to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and clinical application

Panel Discussion: A panel was convened to discuss strategies for strengthening SBRT/SRT, SGRT, and 4D CT in Tamil Nadu government health facilities. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Selvalakshmi, Assistant Professor of Radiation Oncology at GAAMCH. The panel comprised eminent professors from RGGGH & MMC, Stanley MCH, along with experienced medical physicists and radiation technologists.

The panel recommended the following:

- Establish dedicated CT simulators in radiation oncology centers, rather than converting diagnostic CT machines into simulators.
- Adopt standardized SBRT protocols developed by experts across all radiation oncology centers, enabling Tamil Nadu's system to function as pioneering centers similar to Tata Medical Centre.
- Organize regular knowledge-exchange seminars to build capacity among radiation oncology teams in delivering SBRT/SRT.
- Implement hands-on training programs for radiation oncologists, medical physicists, and radiotherapy technologists, conducted regularly and irrespective of their current workplace.



Panel discussion

Closing remarks

On behalf of the Project Director, the Project Officer from the JICA TNNCD (Oncology) Project brought the session to a close by expressing gratitude to the ADME for his participation and the trained experts for their consistent teamwork, which ensured protocols development based on the learning in Japan and the successful completion of this seminar. He extended his thanks to all the participants for their dedicated involvement, both in person and online. Finally, he commended Dr. Srinivasan's visionary leadership in uniting the community through this knowledge-sharing platform.



Group Photo

The training was organised under the TNNCD (Oncology) Project as a part of its "OUTPUT 3" component, which specifically aims to **enhance clinical skills and practices for cancer diagnosis and treatment at government cancer care institutions. Besides radiation oncology, observership training in **pathology (molecular diagnostic for cancer), gynecological oncology and surgical gastroenterology** were carried out by the Project at renowned institutions in India and Japan.*