

THE ETHICS OF METHODS AND THE METHODS OF ETHICS

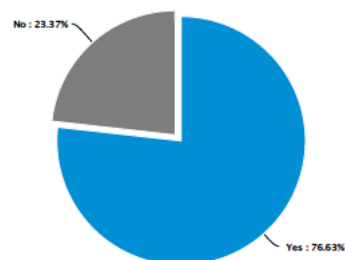
Ethics of radiation protection in medicine: Clinical Scenarios in radiotherapy

Christina Skourou
St. Luke's Radiation Oncology Centre
Dublin, Ireland
RICOMET•Antwerp 2018

Survey Report: AAPM Code of Ethics

VIEWED	STARTED	COMPLETED	COMPLETION RATE	DROP OUTS	TIME TO COMPLETE
1280	1181	969	82%	212	5 mins

Are you familiar with the AAPM Code of Ethics?



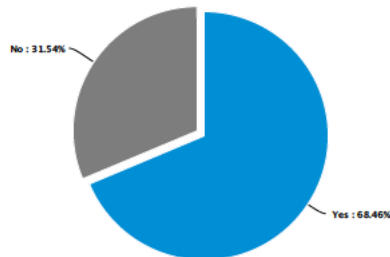
Answer	Count	Percent		20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1. Yes	751	76.63%						
2. No	228	23.37%						
Total	980	100%						
Mean: 1.234	Confidence Interval @ 95%: [1.207 - 1.260]		Standard Deviation: 0.423	Standard Error: 0.014				

Have you ever encountered an ethical dilemma in your professional practice?



Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1. Yes	502	50.96%	<div></div>				
2. No	483	49.04%	<div></div>				
Total	985	100%					
Mean: 1.490	Confidence Interval @ 95%: [1.459 - 1.522]		Standard Deviation: 0.500		Standard Error: 0.016		

Upon encountering an ethical dilemma in your professional practice, would you consult the AAPM Code of Ethics? Please share your views about the value of a Code of Ethics for AAPM members.



Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1. Yes	662	68.46%	<div></div>				
2. No	305	31.54%	<div></div>				
Total	967	100%					
Mean: 1.315	Confidence Interval @ 95%: [1.286 - 1.345]		Standard Deviation: 0.465		Standard Error: 0.015		

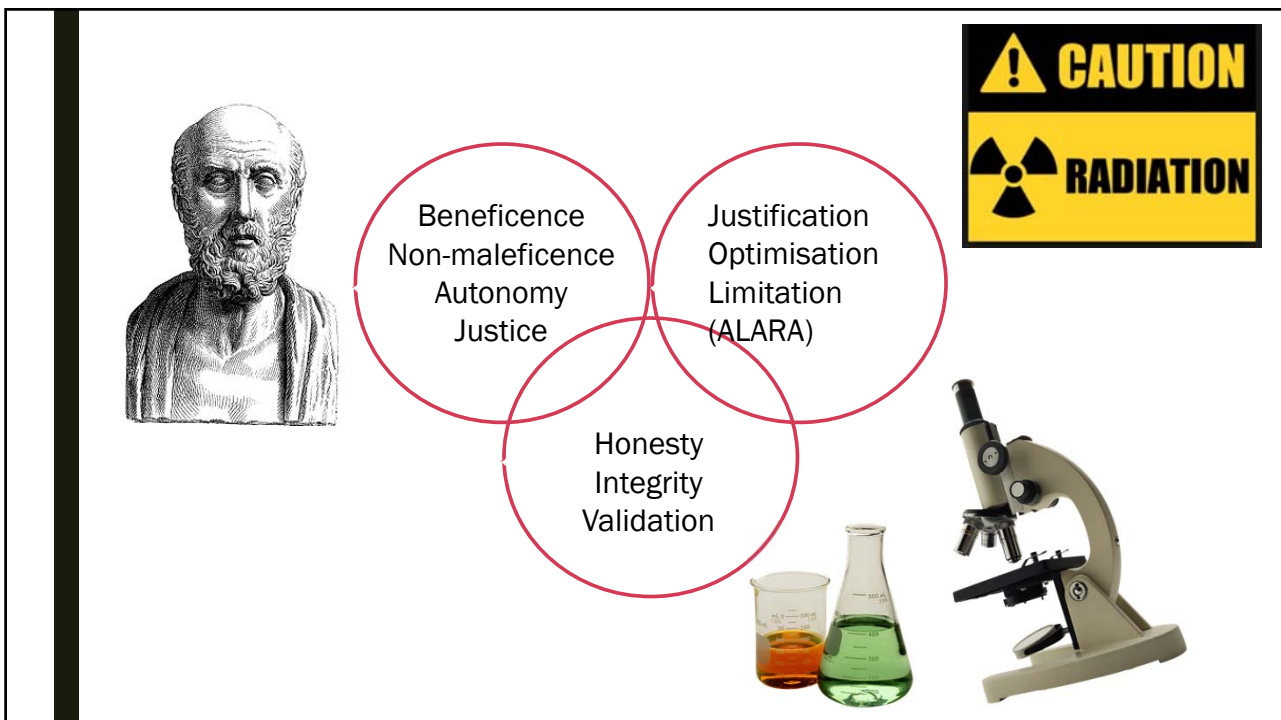
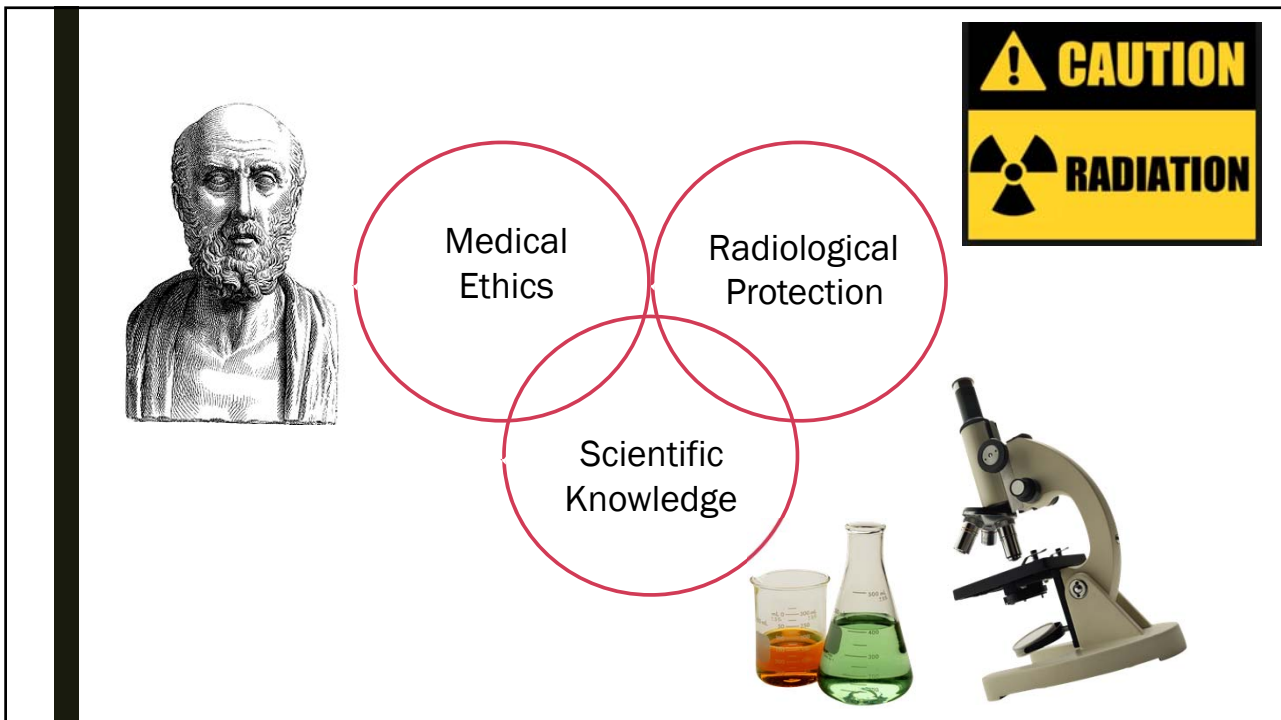
- Members are not mindful when agreeing to abide by the AAPM Code of Ethics
 - Introduce annual attestation at the time of membership renewal
 - Educate members on the existence/content of the CoE

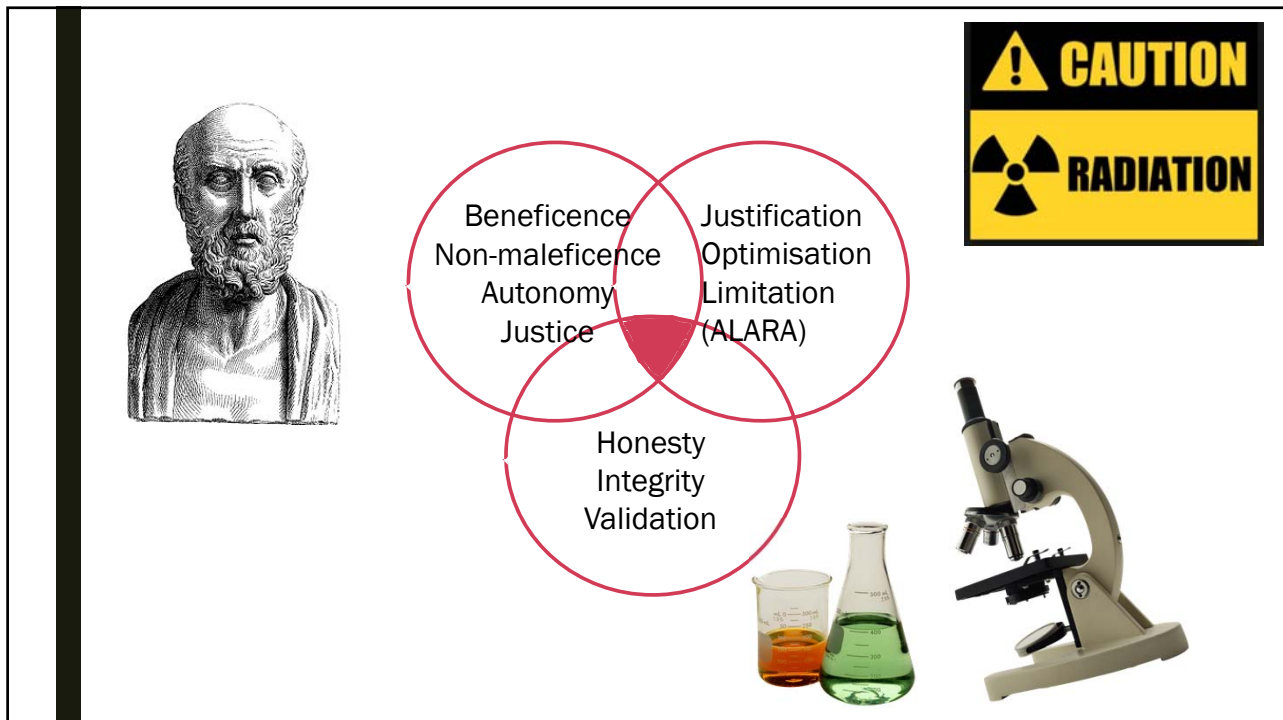
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- Members rely on their 'personal ethics' when making decisions
 - Convince members of the importance of a common value system

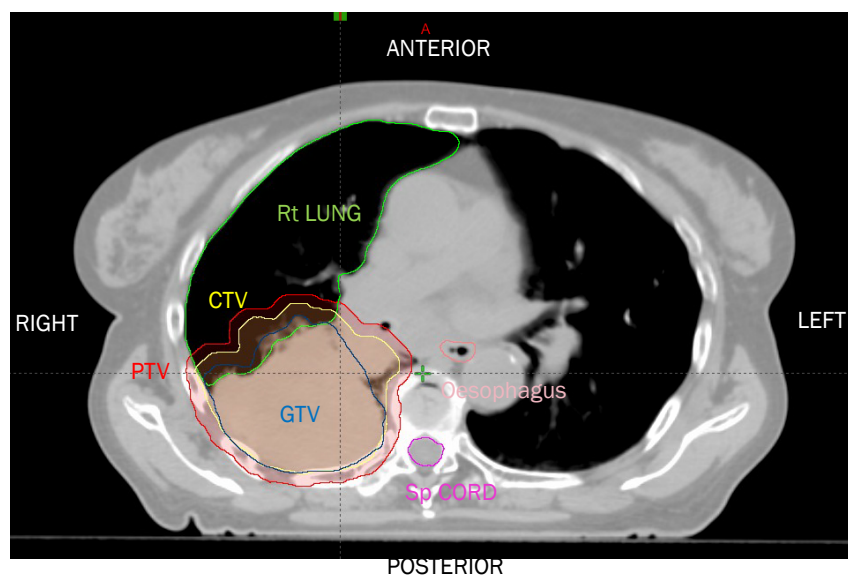
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Common value system

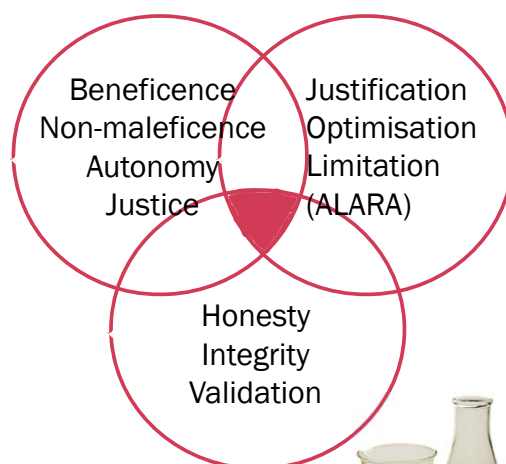
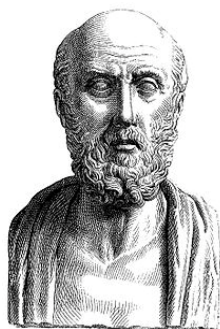
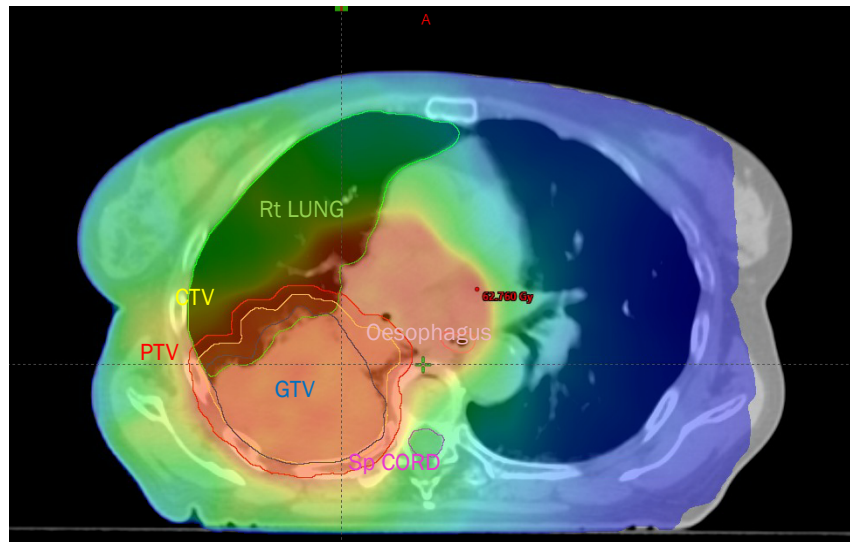




Beneficence - Justification



Optimisation – Limitation – Non-maleficence



BJR
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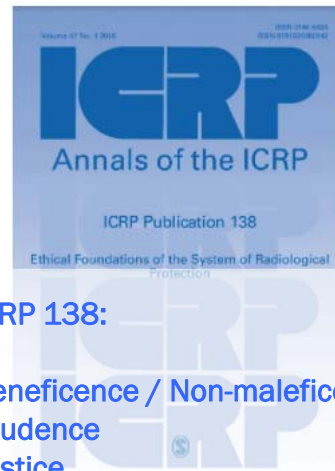
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FULL PAPER
Pragmatic ethical basis for radiation protection in diagnostic radiology
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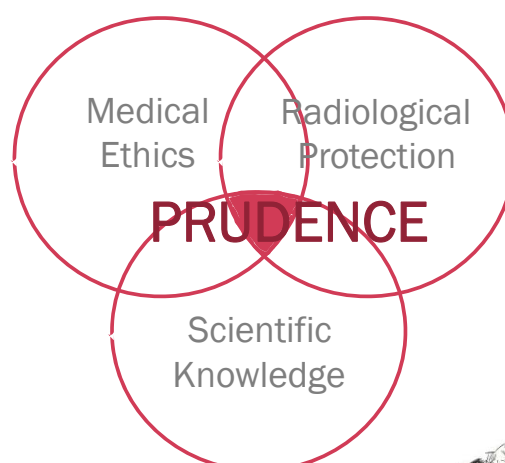
Pragmatic Value Set:
Beneficence / Non-maleficence
Prudence / Precaution
Justice
Dignity / Autonomy
Honesty / Transparency

contemporary behaviour in radiation protection of patients. Application of the system is illustrated in six clinical scenarios. The proposed system is designed, as far as is possible, so as not to be in conflict with the principles emerging from the ICRP/IRPA.



ICRP 138:

Beneficence / Non-maleficence
Prudence
Justice
Dignity
Accountability
Transparency
Inclusiveness



“Practical wisdom”

The consolidation of theoretical (scientific) process and ethical action.

Scenario: Ms. Payne, Choice of treatment technique

- Ms Payne, aged 82, is a breast cancer survivor, an active painter and an avid book reader.
- She now presents with 3 intracranial metastases and is offered stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) by Dr. Periwinkle, a radiation oncologist.
- Upon further investigation, 2 additional lesions are detected which put to question the benefit of SRS.
- Dr. Periwinkle offers her SRS over whole brain RT to protect her from potential damage to her cognitive function.

**Dignity
Autonomy**

**Beneficence,
Non-
Maleficence**

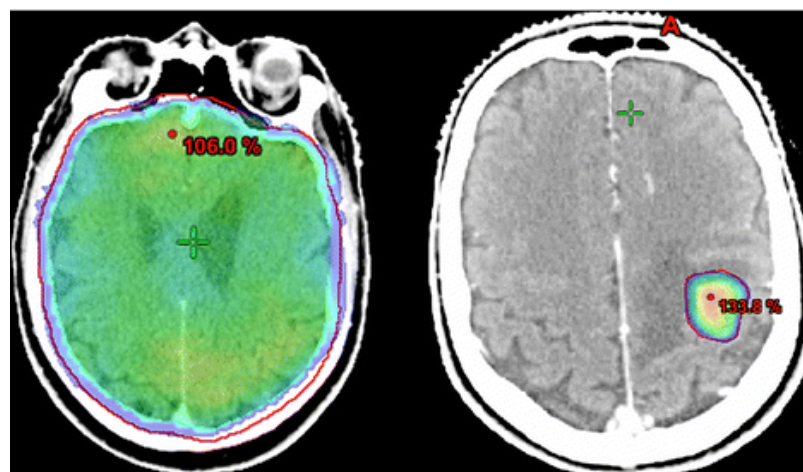
Justice

**Prudence
Precaution**

**Honesty
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Malone, Zölzer, Meskens, Skourou, Do No Harm: Ethics of Radiation Protection in Medicine. (in print)

SRS v WBRT



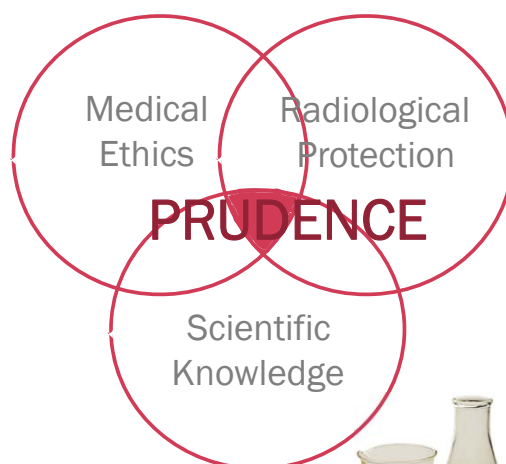
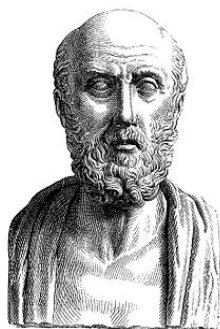
Zindler et al, BMC Cancer 2017, 15:500

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Dignity Autonomy	Beneficence, Non- Maleficence	Justice	Prudence Precaution	Honesty Transparency
Y	Y	-	Y	Y
	n	-		

Malone, Zolzer, Meskens, Skourou. Do No Harm: Ethics of Radiation Protection in Medicine. (in print)



New set of AAPM principles:

- Members must hold as paramount **the best interests of the patient** under all circumstances.
- Members must strive to provide the best quality patient care and **ensure the safety, privacy and confidentiality** of patients and research participants.
- Members must **act with integrity** in all aspects of their work.
- Members must **interact in an open collegial and respectful manner** amongst themselves and in relation to other professionals, including those in training, and safeguard their confidences and privacy.
- Members must **strive to be impartial** in all professional interactions, and must disclose and formally manage any real, potential or plausible conflicts of interest.
- Members must strive to continuously **maintain and improve their knowledge** and skills while encouraging the professional development of their colleagues and of those under their supervision.
- Members must **operate within the limits of their knowledge, skills and available resources** in the provision of healthcare. Members must enable practices in which patients are provided the levels of medical physicist expertise and case-specific attention as appropriately supports the modalities of their care.
- Members must adhere to the legal and regulatory requirements that apply to the practice of their profession.
- Members must **support the ideals of justice and fairness** in the provision of healthcare and allocation of limited resources.
- Members are **professionally responsible and accountable for their practice, attitudes and actions** including inactions and omissions.

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Thank you