



Interregional Training Course on Childhood Cancer Imaging

Hosted by the

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna International Centre

Vienna, Austria

29 July to 2 August 2024

**INT6065: Contributing towards Improved Survival in Childhood Cancer
Using Radiation Medicine and Nutrition**

Ref. No.: EVT2200255

Information Sheet

Purpose of the event

The event aims to provide certified radiologists working at public facilities with practical knowledge in fundamental principles of imaging for children with cancer, and the importance of establishing quality paediatric imaging services.

Project Background

Childhood cancer is rare, but in terms of the potential years of life which may be lost, it represents the fourth most important malignancy. Tragically, whilst more than 80% of children diagnosed in high income countries (HICs) are cured, 90% of children diagnosed live in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), where survival is significantly lower. Multimodality imaging is central to evidence based clinical management algorithms for childhood cancer, including image guidance of biopsies; disease staging; treatment planning; evaluation of response to therapies; and targeting procedures (including radiotherapeutic ones).

The IAEA interregional project INT6065 aims at strengthening the existing multidisciplinary infrastructure through the development of standard operating procedures; training; quality assurance; expert support; small procurement; and evaluation of interventions in the areas of radiotherapy, imaging, and nutrition. The project aligns with plans in all regions for strengthening cancer services using nuclear techniques, and addresses areas where nuclear technology can have an impact throughout the cancer spectrum from diagnosis to treatment and supportive care.

The Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer (GICC) was launched with WHO and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in 2018, bringing together stakeholders from around the world and across sectors with the joint goal of increasing the survival rate of children with cancer globally to at least 60% by 2030 while reducing their suffering and improving their quality of life.

Medical imaging plays a pivotal role in early detection, accurate diagnosis and staging, image-guided biopsy, patient follow-up, treatment planning, and as warranted image-guided therapies. The IAEA has longstanding experience supporting Member States on the safe and adequate use of medical imaging techniques that are used to manage children with cancer, as aligned with evidence-based guidelines.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is pleased to collaborate with IAEA to develop and produce this critical training course. St. Jude serves as the first and only WHO Collaborating Centre for Childhood Cancer since 2018, expressing unwavering dedication to enhancing global access and quality of childhood cancer care. Through St. Jude Global, the institution integrates research, innovation, and advanced education with program and capacity building to address disparities in access to diagnosis and care around the world. An essential factor in achieving the mission of St. Jude Global and the goal of GICC is creating educational and professional development opportunities to empower the global healthcare workforce.

Scope and Nature

This training course aims to train certified radiologists working at public facilities which see the most paediatric patients, and therefore stand to diagnose, assess and monitor the most paediatric cancers.

The course will cover fundamental principles of paediatric cancer imaging. Topics will span from essential basic information to granular imaging protocols across clinical scenarios, to advanced applications. There will be a focus on clinical guidelines, case presentations, and practical sessions.

Specific objectives of this training course with theoretical and practical sessions include:

- diagnostics for paediatric cancer as integral to clinical guidelines, with an emphasis on how imaging is embedded in the overall patient pathway for the most common paediatric cancers;
- the ideal team approach in the patient pathway, including how to foster appropriate imaging referral, select appropriate imaging protocols, understand how imaging findings change clinical management, and formulate imaging reports accordingly.
- how to continuously strengthen their relevant skills to both recommend and ideally protocol the most appropriate imaging exams; interpret them optimally; and interact with the multidisciplinary team, including at regular tumor boards; or to know when imaging is not warranted.
- relevant online resources available, including those to be presented by St. Jude; and enduring materials anticipated to be shared from this event as online resources.
- providing an opportunity to network and collaborate with like-minded professionals across the world.
- a discussion around the Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer, health systems level issues to operationalize paediatric cancer imaging, and challenges in integrating paediatric cancer imaging locally; including how radiologists can be involved in national cancer control planning and priority-setting in their countries.

This is a first course of its kind, the IAEA joining partners towards improving paediatric imaging in Member States across all world regions.

Participants' Qualifications and Experience

Each country is invited to nominate one (1) candidate.

The nominee should be a head of radiology, or a radiologist who is primarily responsible for reviewing the most imaging of children with cancer. Subspecialized paediatric radiologists would be good candidates, if available.

It would be ideal for the candidate to:

- participate in local or international paediatric tumor boards or paediatric multidisciplinary case discussions at least once/month;
- be actively involved in paediatric cancer imaging training or educational programmes in their country.

The qualifications, experience and current duties of the participants should be clearly and thoroughly described in the nomination form. Incomplete or unclear nominations will not be considered by the selection committee.

The training course will be conducted in English, so participants should have sufficient proficiency to follow lectures and express themselves in this language.

Participation

The Interregional Training Course is open to participants from the countries that joined the project INT6065: 'Contributing towards Improved Survival in Childhood Cancer Using Radiation Medicine and Nutrition'. Each country is invited to nominate one (1) candidate who needs to match the profile described in the corresponding paragraph.

Countries participating in the interregional project: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Cyprus, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Iran, Jamaica, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Niger, Morocco, North Macedonia, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Working Language

The working language of the event will be English.

Deadline for Nominations

Nominations received after **18 May 2024** will not be considered.

Application Procedure

Candidates wishing to apply for this event should follow the steps below:

1. Access the InTouch+ home page (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>) using the candidate's existing Nucleus username and password. If the candidate is not a registered Nucleus user, she/he must create a Nucleus account (<https://websso.iaea.org/IM/UserRegistrationPage.aspx>) before proceeding with the event application process below.
2. On the InTouch + platform, the candidate must:
 - a) Finalize or update her/his personal details, provide sufficient information to establish the required qualifications regarding education, language skills and work experience ('Profile' tab) and upload relevant supporting documents.
 - b) Search for the relevant technical cooperation event (EVT2200255) under the 'My Eligible Events' tab, answer the mandatory questions and lastly submit the application to the required authority.

NOTE: Completed applications need to be approved by the relevant national authority, i.e. the National Liaison Office, and submitted to the IAEA through the established official channels by the provided designation deadline.

For additional support on how to apply for an event, please refer to the [InTouch+ Help page](#). Any issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be addressed to InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

Should online application submission not be possible, candidates may download the nomination form for the training course from the [IAEA website](#).

Administrative and Financial Arrangements

Nominating authorities will be informed in due course of the names of the candidates who have been selected and will at that time be informed of the procedure to be followed regarding administrative and financial matters.

Selected participants will receive an allowance from the IAEA sufficient to cover their costs of lodging, daily subsistence and miscellaneous expenses. They will also receive either a round-trip air ticket based on the most direct and economical route between the airport nearest their residence and the airport nearest the duty station through the IAEA's travel agency AX Travel Management, or a travel allowance, or they will be reimbursed travel by car/bus/train in accordance with IAEA rules for non-staff travel.

Disclaimer of liability

The organizers of the event do not accept liability for the payment of any cost or compensation that may arise from damage to or loss of personal property, or from illness, injury, disability or death of a participant while he/she is travelling to and from or attending the course, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in approving his/her participation, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks.

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