



IAEA
International Atomic Energy Agency
Atoms for Peace

DIRAC

Directory of Radiotherapy Centres

The IAEA Directory of Radiotherapy Centres — DIRAC — is a web based database of radiotherapy infrastructure worldwide. DIRAC includes data on teletherapy machines, sources and devices used in brachytherapy, and equipment for dosimetry, imaging, patient dose calculation and quality assurance. These data are complemented with the numbers of radiation oncologists, medical physicists and radiation therapists working at the facilities.

To maintain high reliability, the database is updated continuously using questionnaires available from the IAEA. DIRAC is the only centralized database that describes the current capacity for the delivery of radiation therapy worldwide. This unique quality of DIRAC allows extraction of the information necessary for analysis of the status of radiotherapy and estimation of the need for facilities in various countries or regions, or worldwide.



www-naweb.iaea.org/nahu/dirac
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Since 1959, the International Atomic Energy Agency has maintained a register of hospitals and clinical institutions having radionuclide and high energy teletherapy machines, known as the Directory of Radiotherapy Centres (DIRAC).

The present electronic version of DIRAC contains data collected since 1995 and includes data related to teletherapy machines, sources and devices used in brachytherapy, and equipment for dosimetry, patient dose calculation and quality assurance. Staff strength at the facilities (radiation oncologists, medical physicists, and technologists) is also included.

So far, data have been collected from 141 countries for over 7600 radiotherapy centres with 13 000 teletherapy machines (Co-60 units and clinical accelerators) and about 2400 brachytherapy units. However, DIRAC is still an incomplete description of the worldwide status of radiotherapy infrastructure.

Recently, DIRAC has undergone substantial revisions and is being updated in order to make reliable data available to users worldwide via the IAEA web site at:

www-naweb.iaea.org/nahu/dirac

We therefore ask you for your assistance in verifying that the DIRAC data on the hospital infrastructure for your country is complete.

Both individual hospitals and national co-ordinators are most welcome to update their data on-line. You are also welcome to forward the DIRAC link to other hospitals in order for them to update their data.

If you are able to help us in updating the information, please use the link above and follow the instructions to log-in to the DIRAC database. A password is required, which will be generated by our system and sent to you by the IAEA DIRAC Operator.

Please check, correct and complete all data as they appear in DIRAC. Where relevant, please input new records for new installations or new hospitals. If a piece of equipment is no longer operational (e.g. it has been decommissioned), please do not delete it but select the option "non-operational" from the pull-down menu.

It is also possible to update the data off-line. Hospitals not at present in the database may download an empty Excel questionnaire from the web site. Those hospitals already in DIRAC may request the Excel questionnaire for updating by sending an email to DIRAC@iaea.org. The questionnaires should be retuned to us, preferably by email.

Hard copies of the DIRAC questionnaire can be sent to those who cannot provide us with records electronically.

Your kind cooperation is appreciated.

Thank you.