

The Resident Perspective

Amir Safavi, Chief Resident



Radiation Oncology
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO


The Resident Perspective

- Why RadOnc?
- Why UTDRO?
- Life as a Resident?
- Life in Toronto?



Why RadOnc?


Resident
Doctors
of Canada



Médecins
résidents
du Canada

Radiation Oncology Resident Profile

Amir Safavi



July 2022

About me

Hi! My name is Amir and I'm a PGY-2 Radiation Oncology resident at the University of Toronto. I am a Torontonian and devoted Leafs fan. I obtained my BA at Columbia University studying Biology and Music (I considered a career as a violinist at one point), an MSc at the University of Toronto researching sarcoma genomics, and an MD at McMaster University.

Why I chose Radiation Oncology

I had developed an academic interest in Oncology through senior year coursework and research in graduate school. However, learning about cancer care through the experiences of those close to me translated my academic interest into an aspiration to be an Oncologist. Early in medical school, I considered different avenues to pursue a career in Oncology, and very quickly found Radiation Oncology to be the best fit and most fulfilling. Imagine having the chance to provide cure and meaningful pain and symptom relief to your patients, locally treat cancer from head-to-toe in adults and children, and work with arguably the most interdisciplinary teams in all of medicine to leverage cutting-edge technology and care for patients in the most challenging time of their lives!

Source: <https://residentdoctors.ca/resident-profile/dr-amir-safavi/>

Resident
Doctors
of Canada



Médecins
résidents
du Canada

Radiation Oncology Resident Profile

Gordon Locke



December 2016

About me

Hi there! My name is Gordon Locke and I am a PGY-1 in radiation oncology at the University of Toronto. I grew up in the Toronto neighborhood of High Park. I did my undergraduate degree in medical biophysics at Western University in London, Ont., and subsequently did my medical degree at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ont.

Why I chose radiation oncology

Radiation oncology is a small specialty that many people have never heard of, or at least they don't know exactly what radiation oncologists do. When I chose to become a radiation oncologist, several factors played into my decision. One important consideration was that the specialty is primarily outpatient-based with very few inpatient responsibilities. This gives me more predictable practice hours and responsibility.

Source: <https://residentdoctors.ca/resident-profile/dr-gordon-locke/>

Why UTDRO – High Energy and Dynamic

Vision

Global leadership in Radiation Oncology by transforming practice through innovation and excellence in Research and Education.

Mission

We prepare future radiation medicine leaders, contribute to our communities, and improve the health of individuals and populations through discovery, application, and communication of knowledge.



UTDRO 2019-2020 Annual Report

*“Clearly, UTDRO is one of the **leading radiation oncology departments in the world**. On the basis of its publications, UTDRO compares favorably to peer institutions such as MD Anderson Cancer Centre and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre.”*

2021 External Review



CLINICAL TRIAL SELECTED FOR
ASTRO 2022 PLENARY SESSION

NRG/RTOG 1112: Randomized Phase III Study of Sorafenib vs. Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy (SBRT) Followed by Sorafenib in Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC) (NCT01730937).


DR. LAURA DAWSON, MD, FASTRO
PRINCESS MARGARET CANCER CENTRE



Clinical Integration of AI/ML for Curative-Intent Radiation Treatment of Patients with Prostate Cancer

Ale Berlin, MD, MSc
Princess Margaret Cancer Centre

ASTRO 2022 PLENARY SESSION

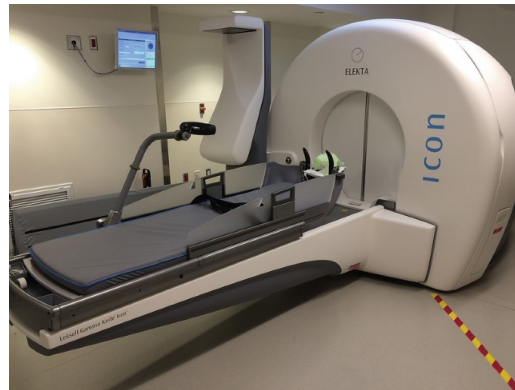
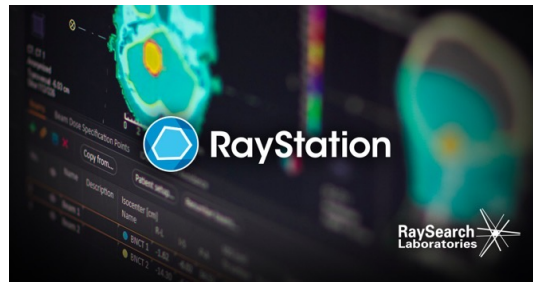
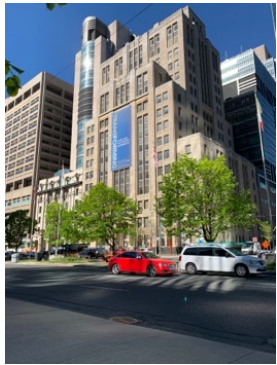


CCTG SC.24/TROG 17.06:
A Randomized Phase II/III Study Comparing 24gy in 2 Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy (SBRT) Fractions Versus 20gy in 5 Conventional Palliative Radiotherapy (CRT) Fractions for Patients with Painful Spinal Metastases

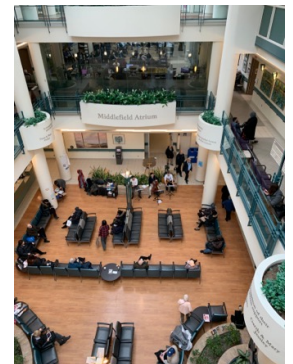
Arjun Sahgal, MD
Sunnybrook Odette Cancer Centre,
University of Toronto

Why UTDRO – Cutting Edge Centres

Princess Margaret
Cancer Centre  **UHN**



 **Sunnybrook**
ODETTE CANCER CENTRE



 Radiation Oncology
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



Why UTDRO – 4 Residents/Year



Why UTDRO – Collaboration



Pre-treatment psychoeducational intervention and outcomes in head and neck cancer patients undergoing radiotherapy.

Malik NH, Maganti M, McQuestion M, **Tjong MC**, **Keilty D**, Monteiro E, Huang SH, Jang RW, Gomes A, Pun J, Ringash J.

Support Care Cancer. 2021 Mar;29(3):1643–1652. doi: 10.1007/s00520-020-05627-2. Epub 2020

Canadian Perspectives on Radiation Oncologist Workforce Planning and the Job Market.

Keilty D, **Malik N**, Ringash J, Halperin R, Brundage M, Doll CM, Loewen SK.

Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys. 2022 Feb 1;112(2):282–284. doi: 10.1016/j.ijrobp.2021.09.049.

Stereotactic ablative radiotherapy for malignant mediastinal and hilar lymphadenopathy: a systematic review.

Tjong MC, **Malik NH**, Chen H, Boldt RG, Li G, Cheung P, Poon I, Ung YC, Tsao M, Louie AV.

J Thorac Dis. 2020 May;12(5):2280–2287. doi: 10.21037/jtd.2020.03.112.

Stereotactic ablative radiotherapy versus metastasectomy for pulmonary metastases: guiding treatment in the oligometastatic era.

Malik NH, **Keilty DM**, Louie AV.

J Thorac Dis. 2019 May;11(Suppl 9):S1333–S1335. doi: 10.21037/jtd.2019.04.16.



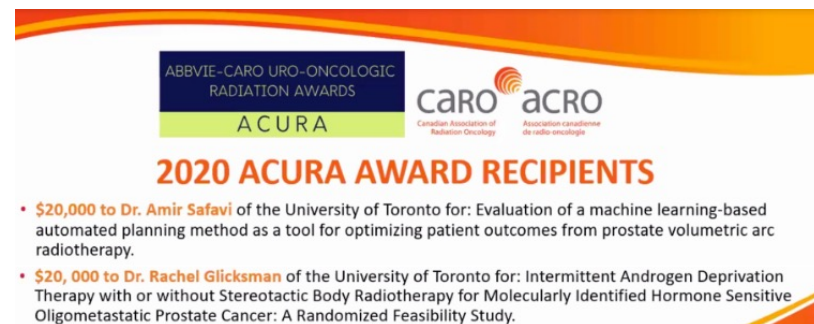
Why UTDRO – Sustained Resident Excellence



Jean Roy Resident Memorial Award - Dr. Amir Safavi

Best of the Resident Oral Presentation Session - George Li
SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF STEREOTACTIC BODY RADIOTHERAPY FOR ULTRA-CENTRAL THORACIC TUMOURS

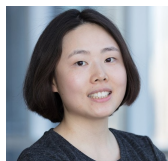
Book Prize: CanMEDS non-medical expert - Adrian Cozma



First Author Publications:



Radiation Oncology @UofTDRO · Jun 8
Congratulations to Dr. Badr Id Said @BadrIdSaid who has been awarded the #NOYCIA (Novartis Oncology Young Canadian Investigator Award) for his #ASCO2022 abstract: "Individualized Prediction of Distant Metastases Risk in Oral Cavity Carcinoma: A Validated Predictive-Score Model".



Radiation Medicine Program @RadMedPM · Jul 11
Congratulations to #RMPatPM @UofTDRO Resident Dr. Jennifer Kwan, who received the 2022 Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Cancer @CancerCareMASCC Young Investigator Award!



Michael Tjong
2021



The NEW ENGLAND
JOURNAL of MEDICINE



Dana Keilty
2021

Journal of Clinical Oncology®



Rachel Glicksman
2020

JAMA Oncology

Why UTDRO – Wellness Committee

Social events



Call room snacks



Gym @ PMCC



Supporting parental leave



Wellness 2020-2021 Survey

Help the wellness committee with your wellness!

Anonymous feedback

Safe space to submit your comments/concerns about the program, hidden curriculum, etc
 * You will not be associated with your submission; if you do not want your comment brought forward anonymously to RPC/Dr. Bezjak, please say so in your comment

Why UTDRO – Fellows are Awesome



Academic Half Day (AHD) Fellow Teaching

9:00-10:25 am	Drill for Jason (PGY3) and Donna (PGY3) - by Dr. Mheid (PMCC fellow)
10:30-12:00 pm	Palliative Radiation Lecture - by Dr. Othman (PMCC fellow)

AHD PM Fellow Coverage

Pick up pager right after AHD or physics

If teaching cancelled, Friday on-call resident to hold pager instead of pre-assigned fellow

Sept 30	Marc Barcelona
Oct 7	Sarah Murad
Oct 14	Simone Chaudhary
Oct 21	Saheli Saha
Oct 28	Rohan Salunkhe

Research Fellow Mentorship

[Immunotherapy and Stereotactic Ablative Radiotherapy for Lung Cancer with Co-existing Interstitial Lung Disease: A Case Report.](#)

Li GJ, Tan H, Chen H, Parmar A, Louie AV.

Clin Lung Cancer. 2021 Sep;22(5):e734-e737. doi: 10.1016/j.clcc.2021.01.018. Epub 2021 Feb 4.

[Trastuzumab emtansine increases the risk of stereotactic radiosurgery-induced radionecrosis in HER2+ breast cancer.](#)

Id Said B, Chen H, Jerzak KJ, Warner E, Myrehaug S, Tseng CL, Detsky J, Husain Z, Sahgal A, Soliman H.

J Neurooncol. 2022 Aug;159(1):177-183. doi: 10.1007/s11060-022-04055-y. Epub 2022 Jun 17.

[Stereotactic ablative radiotherapy in T1-2N0M0 small cell lung cancer: A systematic review and meta-analysis.](#)

Safavi AH, Mak DY, Boldt RG, Chen H, Louie AV.

Lung Cancer. 2021 Oct;160:179-186. doi: 10.1016/j.lungcan.2021.07.007. Epub 2021 Jul 21.

Life as a Resident - Day and Week at a Glance

A Typical Day	
08:00-09:00	Multidisciplinary Cancer Conference
09:00-12:00	New Patient/Follow-Up Clinic
12:30-13:30	Lunch +/- Treatment Plan Quality Assurance Rounds (discuss several radiation plans with other radiation Oncologists, physicists, and planners)
13:30-17:00	Review Clinic (assess patients who are on treatment once-a-week to provide support and side-effect management)
17:00-19:00	Contouring (self-directed time)

Weekly Schedule at a Glance							
	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
06:00							
07:00							
08:00		Oncology Grand Rounds		Multidisciplinary Cancer Conference			
09:00		Contour	New Patient / Follow-Up Clinic	Contour	New Patient / Follow-Up Clinic	Academic Half-Day	
10:00							
11:00							
12:00		Self-study	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch / Treatment Plan QA Rounds	Lunch	
13:00		Cancer Research Rounds	Contours Review with staff	Contour	Review Clinic	Physics Teaching	
14:00		One-on-One Teaching	New Patient / Follow-Up Clinic				
15:00		Contours Review with staff		Contours Review with staff			
16:00		Self-study		Multidisciplinary Cancer Conference	Multidisciplinary Cancer Conference	Travel between sites and Handover	
17:00			Contour			Call	
18:00							
19:00							
20:00							
21:00							
22:00							
23:00							
00:00							

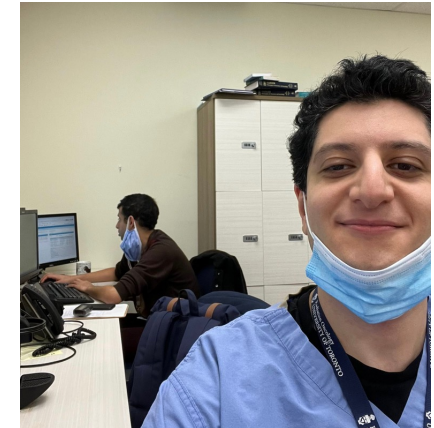
Source: <https://residentdoctors.ca/resident-profile/dr-amir-safavi/>

Life as a Resident - Resident Areas

Princess Margaret
Cancer Centre  UHN

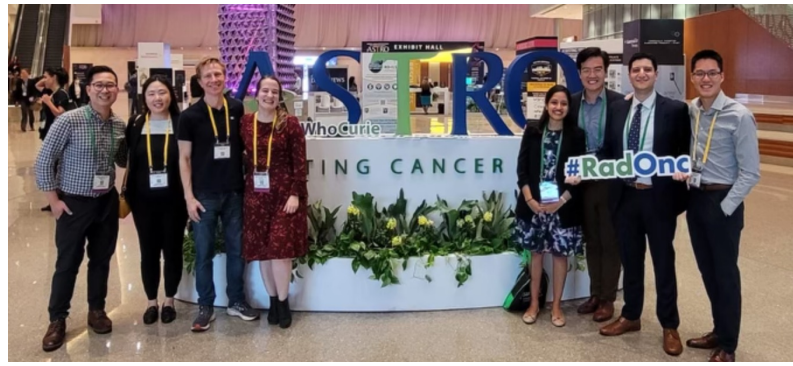


 **Sunnybrook**
ODETTE CANCER CENTRE

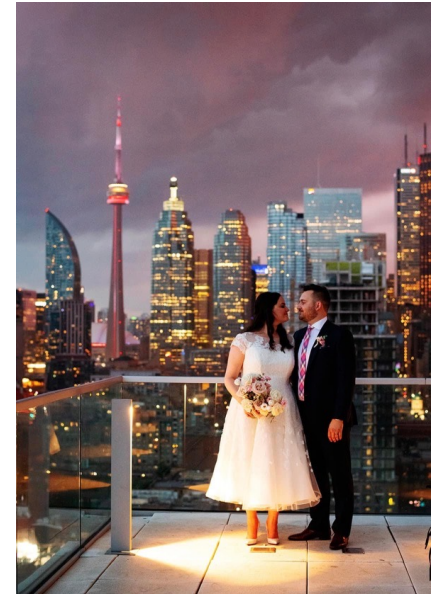


 Radiation Oncology
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Life as a Resident - Conferences and Socials



Life in Toronto



Connect with us!

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Program Coordinator Ms. Catherine Wong catherinek.wong@utoronto.ca

Chief Resident Dr. Amir Safavi amir.safavi@rmp.uhn.ca

Assistant Chief Residents

Dr. Donna Liao donna.liao@rmp.uhn.ca

Dr. Bryce Thomsen bryce.thomsen@rmp.uhn.ca



CANPREPP / AFMC



CANADA'S PORTAL FOR RESIDENCY
PROGRAM PROMOTION
PORTAIL PROMOTIONNEL DES PROGRAMMES
DE RÉSIDENCE CANADIENS

<https://www.canprepp.ca/program-directory/university-of-toronto---radiation-oncology---toronto>

Program Website:

<https://www.radonc.utoronto.ca/radiation-oncology-residency>



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