

***Radiation Therapist* Editorial Review Board  
2021-2022 Report  
Benjamin Morris, M.S.Ed., R.T.(R)(T)(CT), FASRT, Chair**

The *Radiation Therapist* Editorial Review Board promotes and supports scholarly inquiry and dissemination of knowledge that contributes to the body of knowledge in the radiologic sciences.

**Board Composition**

The *Radiation Therapist* ERB is composed of a chair, a vice chair and 13 members. Committee members are:

Chair:	Benjamin Morris, M.S.Ed., R.T.(R)(T)(CT), FASRT
Vice Chair:	Timmerie Cohen, Ph.D., R.T.(R)(T), CMD
Members:	Denise Allen, R.T.(T)
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	Kathleen Drotar, Ph.D., R.T.(R)(N)(T)
	Kyle Kearsley, B.P.S., R.T.(R)(T)(CT)
	Rosann Keller, M.Ed., R.T.(T)
	Jana Koth, M.P.H., R.T.(R)(T)
	Brandon Lausser, M.S., R.T.(T), FACHE, PMP
	George Tolekidis, M.S., R.T.(R)(N)(T)(CT), CNMT, CMD
	Megan Trad, Ph.D., M.S.R.S., R.T.(T)
	Cheryl S. Turner, Ed.D., R.T.(R)(T)
	Nora Uricchio, M.Ed., R.T.(R)(T)

***Radiation Therapist* Manuscript Statistics**

The *Radiation Therapist* ERB reviews column submissions and research articles. For calendar year 2021 the ERB assessed 36 manuscripts, which is down five from the year before. Of those, 11 were accepted (61% acceptance rate) and 7 were rejected (39% rejection rate).

**ASRT Staff and ERB Chair and Vice Chair Meetings**

ASRT Director of Publications Julie Hinds, ERB Chair Benjamin Morris and ERB Vice Chair Timmerie Cohen met monthly to discuss peer-review submissions, scientific editing best practices and ERB handbook updates.

**Harold Silverman Distinguished Author Award**

The ERB named the winners of the Harold Silverman Distinguished Author Award, honoring the best peer-reviewed article published in *Radiation Therapist* during the past year.

Jana Koth, M.P.H., R.T.(R)(T); Brendan Coutu, M.D.; Lisa Bartenhagen, M.S., R.T.(R)(T); Weining Zhen, M.D.; Cindy Arneson, B.S., R.N.; Elizabeth Lyden, M.S.; Morgan Taft, B.S., R.T.(R)(T); Brett Thomas, B.S., R.T.(R)(T); Kim Wilson, B.S., R.T.(R)(T); and Nathan Bennion, M.D., are the winners of the Silverman award for their article, “Assessing Anxiety

Alleviation Through an Informational Video Before Head and Neck Irradiation,” which was published in the fall 2021 issue of *Radiation Therapist*.

Jana Koth is a clinical education coordinator for the radiation therapy program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha. Her research interests are in patient and student education, cancer prevention and treatment, and survivorship. Dr. Coutu is a resident in radiation oncology in the Department of Radiation Oncology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. His research interests include physician and patient education. He manages various oncologic disease sites with special interests in the management of head and neck malignancies and lymphoma. Lisa Bartenhagen is the Charles R. O’Malley Endowed Chair for the Department of Clinical, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Sciences. She has also served as director of the Radiation Therapy Program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center for 22 years. Dr. Zhen is professor and medical director in the Department of Radiation Oncology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. He manages various oncologic disease sites with special interests in the management of head and neck malignancies and lung cancer. Cindy Arneson is a registered nurse who spent most of her career caring for head and neck radiation oncology patients and now works in hospice care. Elizabeth Lyden works for the Department of Biostatistics at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She provides consultation, data analysis and manuscript preparation in the departments of Infectious Disease, Orthopedic Surgery, Anesthesiology, Internal Medicine and Allied Health. She is interested in projects that involve nutritional status and its impact on disease development. Morgan Taft is a radiation therapist at Nebraska Medicine with 13 years of experience. Her research interests include patient education. Brett Thomas is a radiation therapist at Nebraska Medicine and a clinical preceptor for students. His research interests include safety and quality assurance. Kim Wilson is the lead radiation therapist at Nebraska Medicine and has 18 years of experience. Dr. Bennion is a radiation oncologist at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. His clinical and research interests include breast cancer, accelerated partial breast irradiation, hypofractionation, heart-sparing radiation, gynecologic oncology and brachytherapy.

The goal of their original research study was to characterize the effect an informational video designed to reduce treatment-related anxiety had on patients with head and neck malignancies who viewed it after their initial radiation oncology consultation. Koth et al found no significant difference in the mean overall anxiety scores between the control and intervention groups. However, they saw improvements in isolated questions on the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory for Adults short form Y-1 and in the subgroups of sex, marital status, smoking status, and time from diagnosis to consultation with radiation oncology.