

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MEDICAL SCHOOL

Guidelines for Senior Year for Students Interested in Pursuing a Career in Radiation Oncology

Subinternship:

Most students who go into Radiation Oncology complete their subinternship in Internal Medicine. This will be useful as you approach your internship. Although internships in Pediatrics, Surgery or surgical specialties, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Family Practice, and Transitional years are acceptable by the American Board of Radiology (ABR, <http://www.theabr.org/oncology.htm>), most Radiation Oncology residents complete an internship in Internal Medicine.

Electives:

An elective in Radiation Oncology is essential and should be scheduled in Period 1, 2 or 3. Electives in Medical subspecialties that are relevant in Radiation Oncology should be considered, including Medical Oncology, GI, Pulmonary, and Neurology. Electives in Surgical subspecialties that are relevant in Radiation Oncology should be considered, including Surgical Oncology, Neurosurgery, Otolaryngology, Thoracic Surgery, GI Surgery, Urology, Gynecologic Oncology, and Orthopedic Oncology. Electives in Surgical Pathology and Radiology are recommended as well.

For Additional Courses:

Since Radiation Oncologists manage patients with cancers at all anatomic locations and of all age groups, it is reasonable to take any additional courses which interest you and may have some relevance to the management of cancer patients. Surgical and Radiology rotations may be particularly useful considering the knowledge of anatomy required in Radiation Oncology.

Also strongly encouraged is research in the field. Radiation Oncology has become very competitive and research experience is required to get into good programs.