

# Medical Physics Seminar

Monday, September 21, 2015

1345 HSLC ~ 4:00 P.M.

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### **End of Life for Brachytherapy Devices**

In the world of Brachytherapy devices, tools, and other equipment are made to be used for a certain period of time. Because of lack of parts, undesirable effects of items such heat, sterilization, radiation, and other factors, all devices reach a point where they are no longer safe to be used. They become obsolete and reach their end of life. The definition of end of life for Brachytherapy devices is still unclear to many users. The definition was created to meet an FDA requirement in which the manufacturer must inform users on the length of time that a device, used under normal conditions, can be operated. Institutions that are unaware of this policy continue to use these devices beyond their end of life. Therefore they are in violation with respect to the manufacturer's recommendation. The liability and responsibility is transferred from the manufacturer to the user as the product reaches the end of life. The Medical Physicist plays a very important role in educating and informing the institution about such policy and provides supporting information and records for replacement of these devices. Several options to handle end of life are available for the institution. Each has consequences. These options and consequences will be discussed.

1345 Health Sciences Learning Center 4:00 - 5:00 P.M.

University of Wisconsin- Madison School of Medicine and Public Health