Anuradha Koka

Title
Radiation Oncology Past, Present and Future

Abstract:
This presentation will briefly review the history of radiation oncology, starting with the discovery of radiation in 1895 by Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen, through the first therapeutic uses of radiation and ultimately to the current era. The focus will then turn towards advances of technology and treatment planning software and how they have improved clinical outcomes by minimizing side effects and maximizing quality of life, while achieving higher cure rates in cancer patients treated with definitive intent. A review of the newest technologies including intra-operative radiation therapy, radiosurgery and proton beam will also be presented.

Learning Objectives
1. Describe current software applications to enhance therapeutic outcomes and minimize side effects
2. Describe newest technologies in radiation therapy and radiosurgery

Biography
Dr. Koka completed medical school at the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine in London, England in 1986. After completing House jobs in England, Dr. Koka completed an internship in Roanoke, Virginia before residency in radiation oncology at Case Western Reserve in Cleveland, Ohio. After her residency, Dr. Koka joined the faculty of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation where she spent 5 years. Her last year at Cleveland Clinic was spent as Medical Director at Meridia Hillcrest Hospital in the Radiation Oncology Department. Dr. Koka relocated to San Diego in 1997 where she initially held appointments at the University of California San Diego and the Scripps Clinic. Since 2001, Dr. Koka’s clinical practice has been with the Radiation Oncology Associates of San Diego. Dr Koka has recently returned to Scripps Clinic to continue her practice in Radiation Oncology and Radiosurgery.