

So You Want to Build A Radiopharmaceutical Program?: Lessons Learned

2024 Timeline

Background:

February-March 2024:
Noted surge in
radiopharmaceutical clinical
trials presented to University of
Kansas Cancer Center (KUCC).

Goals:

- Establish regular meetings of key stakeholders to determine feasibility of protocols, develop a comprehensive portfolio, and bolster partnerships.
- Assess KUCC's sites for space and capability to accommodate these unique trials.
- **Make KUCC a premier location in our region for radiopharmaceutical treatment and clinical trials.**

Contact: Kelsey Schwensen, Project Manager; kschwensen@kumc.edu

March 2024: Recognized need for structured approach
to these unique trials.

Solution:

April 2024:
Radiopharmaceutical Trial Review
Committee (RTRC) established with
representation from: Project
Management, Nuclear Medicine,
Radiation Oncology, Radiation
Safety, and Clinical Operations

Methods:

June 2024: RTRC meets at least every other month
discussing trial feasibility, site capacity/capabilities,
and needed processes for radiopharmaceuticals,
radioactive biospecimens, and collaboration between
health system and cancer center staff.

Summer-Winter 2024: RTRC expanded to include
leadership and additional representatives from other
departments for awareness and program
progression.

Acknowledgments: Nuclear Medicine Department, Radiation Safety, CTO staff and
leadership.

Outcomes:

Fall 2024:
Additional, focused meetings held
as needed to work toward
solutions for specific trials and/or
workflows.

November 2024:
**KUCC opened its first
radiopharmaceutical trial under
the new program in Fall of 2024
and is in the process of opening
its second.**

Lessons Learned and Future Directions:

- Gaps identified via organized program.
- Space and staffing for a new program are two of the largest challenges KUCC faces.
 - Staff: Specific staff with nuclear medicine knowledge required in research infrastructure.
 - Space: Require dedicated space for these patients, drugs, and biospecimens to avoid radiation contamination to spaces and equipment.
- Nuclear Medicine:
 - Onboarding to research infrastructure is critical.
 - Nuclear Medicine department takes the place of investigational pharmacy.
 - Need to be included in Site Initiation Visits and Delegation of Authority logs, as well as many start-up procedures.
- Radiation Safety:
 - Establishing strong partnership is crucial.
 - This team has oversight over much of the equipment, spaces, biospecimens, and workflows needed for these trials to function.
- **In 2025: KUCC will focus on addressing gaps, securing required equipment, and strengthening the inter-departmental relationships needed for the program to grow and succeed.**

Radiopharmaceutical Trials approached with by Year

