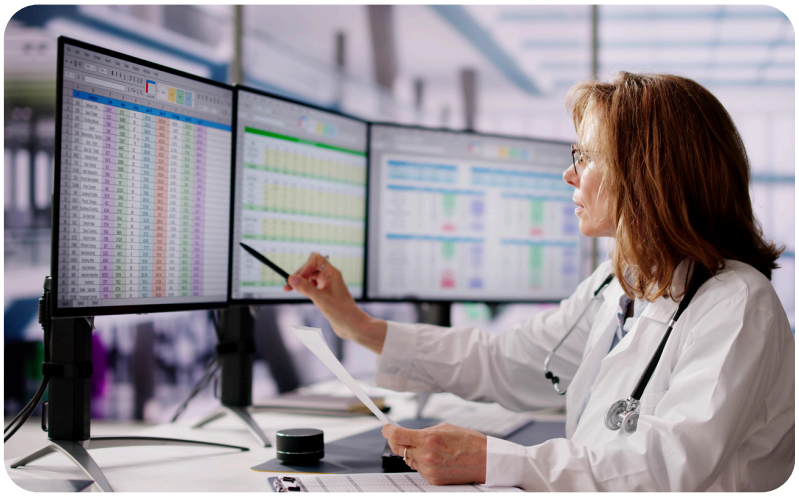
HEALTH CAREER CONNECTION

NOVEMBER, 2026

HEALTH CAREER SPOTLIGHT

MEDICAL DOSIMETRIST

A **medical dosimetrist** is radiation oncology specialist who designs radiation therapy treatment plans and calculates precise radiation doses for patients with cancer and other diseases. They work with radiation therapists, medical physicists, and radiation oncologists. A medical dosimetrist has an overall knowledge of math, physics, anatomy & physiology, radiobiology, and knows the characteristics and clinical relevance of radiation oncology treatment machines and equipment. Medical dosimetrists design, generate, and measure radiation dose distributions and dose calculations while providing oversight to high level treatment procedures in both external beam radiation therapy and brachytherapy (radiation delivery methods). Medical dosimetrists spend much of their time at the computer when calculating doses of radiation and designing treatment plans. Most dosimetrists work in hospital-based radiation oncology or radiology departments, but may work in specialized clinics and private oncology practices, academic and research institutions or radiological oncology vendors.



"Medical Dosimetry has been a highly rewarding career and I wouldn't hesitate to recommend it to others." **-Lee Hales, CMD**

Radiation Therapy | AAW: $147,470 | Cancer Care

JOB DUTIES

- Review patient documents, such as CT and MRI scans.
- Calculate the proper dose of radiation to be administered to a patient.
- Consult with other members of the radiation oncology team and design the radiation-delivery plan for patients.
- May assist in designing molds, casts, and other immobilization devices to position patients during treatment.
- Document treatment provided to a patient.
- Perform quality assurance checks of treatment equipment.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Medical dosimetrists typically need a bachelor's degree in medical dosimetry or a related field, such as biology or physical science. Prospective dosimetrists whose degree is not in medical dosimetry may complete a certificate or master's degree program in medical dosimetry.

Admission to medical dosimetry programs is often competitive. Applicants may be required to be a registered radiation therapist or have a bachelor's degree that includes coursework in specific subjects, such as biology, medical terminology, and calculus.

Employers usually prefer to hire medical dosimetrists who have earned the Certified Medical Dosimetrist (CMD) credential. Certification requires that candidates have a bachelor's degree, graduate from an accredited medical dosimetry program, and pass an exam. Maintaining certification requires completion of a specified number of hours of continuing education.

Click on the image for Dosimetry info



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gfZ5uWHyO98

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CAREER CLOSE-UP

"Lee Hales Chief Medical Dosimetrist at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center shares his professional insights and experience in dosimetry."



What is the most rewarding part of your job?

"The knowledge that, even though I may never actually meet the patient, I played an integral role in designing the highest quality treatment plan for them."

What is the most challenging?

"Customizing a treatment plan to the individual patient. Although we have general planning guidelines for a particular type of cancer, each plan must be optimized for the individual patient's anatomy and extent of disease."

What advice would you give to someone starting out in this field?

"As with many other areas of medicine, the use of Artificial Intelligence is becoming more prevalent in Medical Dosimetry. While it's important to embrace this new technology as a tool to help with routine and repetitive tasks, one should never forget the crucial role that human guidance and creativity play in the creation of an optimal treatment plan.."

Anything else you want to share?

"Medical Dosimetry has been a highly rewarding career and I wouldn't hesitate to recommend it to others!"

RESOURCES



Career Resource Guide





For more information on Medical Dosimetery visit

https://www.medicaldosimetry.org/about/what-do-medical-dosimetrists-do/

https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/medical-dosimetrists.htm

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20 Duncan St. Warsaw, NY 14569 | 585-786-6275 | info@r-ahec.org | https://www.r-ahec.org

WESTERN NEW YORK WNY R-AHEC RURAL AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER

HEALTH CAREER CONNECTION

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DYU DYOUVILLE UNIVERSITY | WNY R-AHEC

D'Youville Univeristy & WNY R-AHEC *Partner to Offer*

HCOP HEALTH CAREERS OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

Summer Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP)

Six Week Summer Program

Tuesday-Thursday, Starting July 6, 2027 & Ending August 12, 2027
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Health Career Exploration Summer Camp for Rising Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors in Western NY



Applications Open January 5, 2027

- Located at WNY R-AHEC (20 Duncan St. Warsaw, NY 14569) and paid opportunity for students.
- Experience hands-on learning, exposure to health profession careers, and skill building.
- Become First Aid & CPR Certified, learn Stop the Bleed, Teen Mental Health First Aid, Simulation Education Training, Social Determinants of Health Course & much more.
- Opportunities to tour, shadow, volunteer in the community (local healthcare facilities, non-profits, businesses, etc.)
- Overnight opportunity at DYU campus, college experience and additional health profession exposure and experiences.
- Health career pathways and college enrollment education.

Paid Opportunity!

HRSA

THIS PROGRAM IS SUPPORTED BY THE HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA) OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS) AS PART OF AN AWARD TOTALING $2,724,632 WITH 0% FINANCED WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL SOURCES. THE CONTENTS ARE THOSE OF THE AUTHOR(S) AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT THE OFFICIAL VIEWS OF, NOR AN ENDORSEMENT, BY HRSA, HHS, OR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT HRSA.GOV.

Questions? Contact WNY R-AHEC: info@r-ahec.org | 585-786-6275



Nursing Camp

University of Rochester School of Nursing

WAYNE COUNTY Community Schools

Looking for February Break Plans?
Join our Camp and Discover the World of Nursing!

Step into the world of nursing through interactive activities and simulations guided by real nurses and students! Learn about the diverse roles in nursing and what it takes to care, lead, and inspire in the healthcare field.

February 17, 2027

9 AM - 3 PM

WFL BOCES Conference Center
131 Drumlin Ct, Newark, NY 14513

Register Now!

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NursingCamp27

Free opportunity!
For students within 9-12th grade.

Shirt and Lunch Included!

Questions? Contact WNY R-AHEC (585) 786-6275 info@r-ahec.org



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Career Resource Guide