Brandon Fisher, DO

Brandon Fisher, DO, is going to great heightsâ€"literallyâ€"to touch the lives of people with cancer around the world. Along with other radiation oncologists and mountain climbers, Dr. Fisher founded Radiating Hope, a non-profit organization that raises funds and develops partnerships to update, replace, and provide radiation equipment in developing countries, including countries in sub-Saharan Africa and South America. He is also currently finishing his residency at Hahnemann University Hospital in Philadelphia.

Radiating Hope's guided mountain climbing expeditions require climbers to raise funds that will support the group's mission. In addition, the organization sells Tibetan prayer flagsâ€"symbolizing health, strength, and hopeâ€"to cancer patients and their loved ones. The patients' initials are written on the flags, and the flags are carried on expeditions to be flown at the mountain peaks; the journeys are chronicled on Radiating Hope's blog. Patients then receive a certificate stating that a prayer flag was donated in their honor. Dr. Fisher is one of four climbers designated to carry the prayer flags to distant mountaintops.

The group identifies needs for radiation equipment through partnerships with organizations such as the International Atomic Energy Agency and Asociacion Latino Americano de Terapia Radiante Oncologia. These organizations assist in the distribution of funds, as well as the ongoing maintenance of the equipment. Radiation equipment is also donated by various physicians, clinics, and manufacturers of radiation equipment. Staff at the radiation therapy facilities that receive the equipment are provided with training through Radiating Hope's partnerships with several organizations.

The organization is currently raising money to place a high-dose rate (HDR) brachytherapy (internal radiation therapy) machine in Panama by 2012. The country, which has a population of more than three million people, has only four linear accelerators (the machine commonly used for external beam radiation therapy) and no HDR units.

In addition to his humanitarian efforts across the globe, Dr. Fisher and his family have dedicated their time and efforts to help those in need in their local community of Philadelphia. He mentored and tutored several refugee boys who had been orphaned during the crisis in Darfour, Sudan, supporting them in their adjustment to a new country and helping them pursue a college education. Dr. Fisher is also president of the LDS Church's Young Men's program at his congregation in Philadelphia, which offers educational and character-building activities for inner-city youth ages 12 to 18. He helped implement an after-school tutoring program and a weekly outing to engage the boys in positive and empowering activities, including art, music, and sports.

Dr. Fisher is a member of the resident committee to the Board of Chancellors of the American College of Radiation Oncology (ACRO); a voting delegate in the resident/fellow section of the American Medical Societies, representing ACRO; and a member of the subcommittee for the Association of Residents in Radiation Oncology's Global Health Initiative.

Listen to a podcast with Dr. Fisher about his humanitarian efforts.

Brandon Fisher, DO, is a physician in radiation oncology and is currently finishing his residency at Drexel/Hahnemann University Hospital in Philadelphia. He is also a member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology and founder of *Radiating Hope* [1], a non-profit organization that raises funds and develops partnerships to update, replace, and provide radiation equipment in developing countries.

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Links:
[1] http://www.radiatinghope.org/