

Empowering the radiography community through advancing practice and career planning: The Advancing Practice in Radiography Special Interest Group [abstract only]

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Empowering the radiography community through advancing practice and career planning: The Advancing Practice in Radiography Special Interest Group.

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Abstract

Objectives: The Advancing Practice in Radiography Special Interest Group (AP-RAD SIG) was launched at UKIO in June 2024. The AP-RAD SIG vision is to provide a supportive community for radiographers, with an opportunity to network, bringing a sense of parity to individuals' roles as they develop locally, regionally, and more widely across all four nations. It is intended to be a supportive community, to share and develop practice, as well as reduce feelings of isolation and silo working through the provision of peer support and encouragement.

The AP-RAD SIG is for ALL radiographers working or training in an advancing practice role, for those educating and leading / managing practitioners at these levels or undertaking research in this area across all specialties and the four home nations. The group aims to provide education, leadership, and research opportunities for its members.

Key Findings:

The facilitators developed a holiday calendar in December 2024 with the aim of socialising relevant publications, supportive documents, and professional development opportunities. This prompted increased membership during this period.

The group has grown to 187 members as of March 2025.

The SIG hosted its first webinar in Autumn 2024 on the e-portfolio route for advanced practice recognition, with a series of webinars requested by the community planned for Spring / Summer 2025

Conclusion: The AP-RAD SIG continues to establish itself as a valuable resource for radiographers. Through its educational initiatives, membership growth, and promotional activities, the group aims to support professional development within the radiography community.

Implications for Practice: The activities and resources provided by the AP-RAD SIG have the potential to socialise current workforce developments, leading to improved patient care and professional growth.