Electives
An elective in Radiation Oncology is essential and should be scheduled in Period 1, 2 or 3 if possible. Electives in Medical subspecialties that are relevant in Radiation Oncology should be considered, including Medical Oncology, GI, Pulmonary, and Neurology. Electives in Surgical subspecialties that are relevant in Radiation Oncology should be considered, including Surgical Oncology, Neurosurgery, Otolaryngology, Thoracic Surgery, GI Surgery, Urology, Gynecologic Oncology, and Orthopedic Oncology. Electives in Surgical Pathology and Radiology are recommended as well.

For Additional Courses
Since Radiation Oncologists manage patients with cancers at all anatomic locations and of all age groups, it is reasonable to take any additional courses which interest you and may have some relevance to the management of cancer patients. Surgical and Radiology rotations may be particularly useful considering the knowledge of anatomy required in Radiation Oncology. Also strongly encouraged is research in the field. Radiation Oncology has become very competitive and research experience is required to get into good programs.

Interviews
Most programs interview from early-mid November until middle January, but there is considerable variability. If you have further questions about the application process, please do not hesitate to contact Radiation Oncology Program Director, Reshma Jagsi, M.D., DPhil (rjagsi@med.umich.edu) for more information.

Internship
Completed after Medical School, most students who go into Radiation Oncology complete an Internship in either Internal Medicine or they select to do a preliminary year. Internships in Pediatrics, Surgery or surgical specialties, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Family Practice, and Transitional years are acceptable by the American Board of Radiology (ABR, http://www.theabr.org/). A small number of programs have an integrated transitional year, but for most programs taking an internship where suits you best for personal and professional reasons is acceptable.