


A photograph of two women walking together in a modern hospital courtyard. The woman on the left is wearing light blue medical scrubs and has her hair in a ponytail. The woman on the right is wearing a purple t-shirt and jeans, carrying a brown shoulder bag. They are both smiling and holding hands. In the background is a large glass-walled building, likely a hospital, with some greenery in the foreground.

PHILIPS

The logo for The Royal College of Radiologists, featuring a stylized white waveform above the text.

The Royal College of Radiologists

Shaping the future
of sustainable radiology

The NHS's commitment to achieving net zero by 2040 has made sustainability a key priority across all departments. As a resource-intensive field, radiology plays a crucial role in reducing healthcare's environmental impact.

To identify opportunities for sustainable transformation in radiology, Philips partnered with the Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) to host a collaborative workshop focused on decarbonising radiology departments.

The session brought together 33 professionals - radiologists, radiotherapists, clinical oncologists, and NHS policymakers - to discuss strategies, challenges, and opportunities for driving the green agenda and to develop a strategic roadmap for the next three to six years.



Tackling shared challenges in greening radiology

During initial discussions, attendees shared their readiness for achieving net zero and highlighted key obstacles, including limited leadership support and tight budgets. Balancing the growing demand for diagnostic services with sustainable practices adds further complexity, emphasising the need to tackle these barriers collectively.



- 45% feel ready and enthusiastic
- 50% do not feel empowered and are under-resourced
- 5% feel neutral

What challenges do you have towards achieving net zero?

- Lack of leadership and collaboration
- Lack of resources and financing
- Department has different priorities
- Compromising quality



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Climate change is one of the greatest threats to humanity, and healthcare has a crucial role to play in addressing it. Radiology, in particular, holds significant potential to make a difference, and the sustainability session highlighted key opportunities to advance this initiative. The workshop was excellent - well-coordinated and highly informative. It was inspiring to see so many enthusiastic, committed individuals on this journey together, and I'm proud that the RCR is dedicated to leading this essential work."

Dr Qaiser Malik, Medical Director for Membership and Business at the Royal College of Radiologists, and Clinical Director of Radiology at Mid and South Essex NHS Trust.

Creating opportunities for change

Focus groups were formed to discuss current practices and opportunities for decarbonising radiology, radiotherapy and clinical oncology across the following areas:

- **Workforce and system leadership**
- **Supply chain, procurement and medicines**
- **Sustainable models of care and travel and transport**
- **Digital transformation**



The outputs were then reviewed as a larger group and organised into a proposed roadmap for the next three to six years. Additionally, the group discussed the importance of establishing a sustainability group, which Dr. Qaiser Malik took on as a personal commitment.

Roadmap



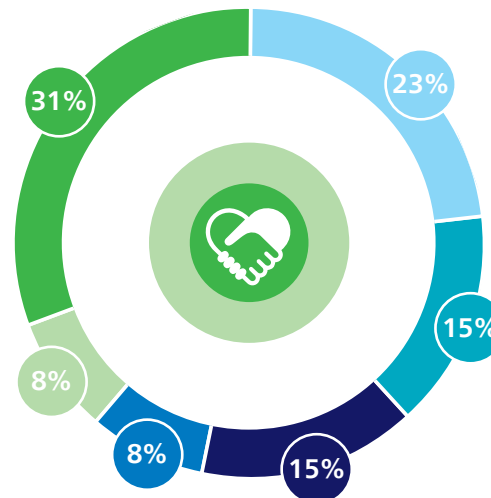
The potential for delivering sustainable healthcare is significant, yet radiology departments face persistent challenges that could hinder effective change. Overcoming these obstacles and ensuring robust support are essential for aligning radiology with the NHS's net zero goals. At Philips, we're proud to play a key role in advancing this initiative and supporting the industry in building an eco-friendlier radiology pathway."

Stephen McMillan, Solutions Leader
Philips Europe and UK & Ireland

Commitments

Finally, delegates considered what commitments they could make personally towards delivering greener services:

- I will help set up an RCR Sustainability Committee"
- I will continue to raise awareness and promote sustainable practices locally"
- I will engage with leadership to embed sustainability and discuss feedback"
- I will embed sustainability in quality improvement projects"
- I will apply for funding to research and translate sustainable practices"
- I will engage and participate with green networks"



Sustainable healthcare with Philips

We believe that by partnering with care providers, healthcare practitioners, and suppliers, we can scale sustainable practices and help decarbonise healthcare, thus creating a more resilient and sustainable industry for the generations to come.



Scan the QR code to find out more.