

Dr. Nasser Maleki January 25, 1953 – January 6, 2012

Dr. Nasser Maleki, formerly Director of Medical Physics at the Anderson Cancer Institute, Memorial University Medical Center in Savannah, Georgia, passed away on January 6, 2012 at his residence with his family by his side, after a three-year battle with glioblastoma.

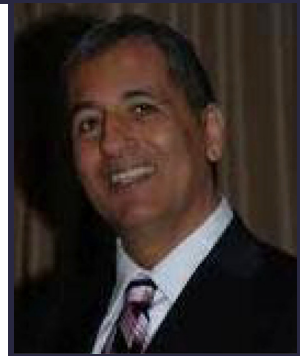
Dr. Maleki was born on January 25, 1953 in Tehran, Iran to the late Lotf-Ali Maleki and Roghiye Karshenas. He received a BSc in physics in 1975 from Pahlavi University in Shiraz, Iran. He received a PhD in theoretical atomic physics, followed by a post-doctoral fellowship in atomic physics in 1982, both at the University of Nebraska. In 1982, Dr. Maleki accepted a post-doctoral fellowship in medical physics at the Joint Center for Radiation Therapy at Harvard Medical School. While at the Joint Center, he worked with Wendell Lutz on an early linear-based system for stereotactic radiosurgery. According to Dr. Lutz, Dr. Maleki was imaginative, hard working and always a pleasure to interact with and played a significant role in developing this radiosurgery system.

Subsequent to his work at the Joint Center, Dr. Maleki implemented linac-based radiosurgery at Mt. Sinai Medical Center in New York City and later at the Memorial University Medical Center in Savannah, GA. In addition, he assisted a number of other medical centers in their efforts to initiate radiosurgery programs, always finding ways to make improvements.

Dr. Siamak Shahabi who was long-term classmate and close friends of Dr. Maleki writes:

I had a great pleasure of knowing such a beautiful human being. Aside from sharing the same goal toward understanding physics, our friendship grew stronger since we practically took the same courses while studying at Pahlavi University in Shiraz, Iran and our PhDs in theoretical atomic physics at the University of Nebraska. We had great fun and passion discussing physics. While Nasser was at the Joint Center for Radiation Therapy, he enticed me to switch to medical physics, which I did by accepting a fellowship in medical physics at Tufts New England Medical Center and hence reuniting in Boston in 1983. Later, we worked together by establishing a consulting corporation, Professional Radiation Resources, Inc. for the purpose of implementing stereotactic radiosurgery systems at various medical centers and radiation therapy departments. In addition to being a kind, peaceful, and soft-spoken, Nasser was an extremely bright and talented scientist. His expertise will be missed in medical physics. I truly miss our long sessions discussing the creation of the universe and its purpose.

Dr. Maleki was a member of AAPM and was Board Certified by the American Board of Radiology in Therapeutic Radiologic Physics. He worked as a radiation therapy physicist and assistant professor of radiotherapy at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York; in 1989, he



became Director of Medical Radiation Physics at the Anderson Cancer Institute, Memorial Health University Medical Center, Savannah, GA, until December 2011. He was also an associate professor of medical physics at Armstrong Atlantic State University and at Georgia Tech.

Dr. Maleki is survived by his loving wife of 25 years, Johanna Hynes-Maleki; four sons, Gian, Aria, Cyrus and Sia all of Savannah; two brothers, Mansoor Maleki of Tehran and Nasir Maleki Paydar of Norway; two sisters, Mahin Maleki of Tehran and Farzaneh Maleki of Savannah, Georgia.

Azam Niroomand-Rad, PhD, FAAPM

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