The ACR MR accreditation program is well-described in documents on the ACR website, and the clinical medical physicist involved in accreditation should be fully aware of the contents of these documents. A brief review of program requirements will be presented highlighting key elements for successful accreditation. While most questions are adequately addressed in the program documents, the physicist may be presented with additional questions and issues not directly addressed in these documents. Some common issues to look for will be discussed.

While many of the tests used to judge phantom image quality are objective with published criteria, some issues of quality (for example those related to artifacts or low contrast detectability) may fall in "grey" areas in which the medical physicist will need to decide if service should be called to resolve an issue or if the images are adequate and the site may submit the images hoping they will pass. Images of less than ideal quality will be presented for discussion.

After accreditation is granted, a program of on-going quality control and annual physics surveys must be established and maintained. The medical physicist should be involved to help set up and monitor this program. Several concepts in on-going quality control will be presented. And after everything is set up and running smoothly are you confident that your site would perform well during an inspection? Information will be discussed regarding what the ACR may look for during an inspection.

This presentation will briefly review key elements important for successful MR accreditation, and will go beyond the basics to provide additional information that may be helpful to the clinical medical physicist.

Educational Objectives

1. Understand key elements required for successful ACR MR accreditation.
2. Review issues related to phantom image quality.
3. Discuss on-going requirements to maintain accreditation.
4. Understand what may be reviewed during an inspection.