AbstractID: 1282 Title: ASTRO Physics Curriculum for Radiation Oncology Residents

In 2002, ASTRO's Radiation Physics Committee appointed an Ad-hoc Committee On Physics Teaching To Medical Residents. The main objective was to develop a core curriculum. This was completed and approved by the ASTRO board in late 2003 and will be disseminated to the community in 2004. The committee was composed of physicists or physicians from various institutions with residency programs. Simultaneously, members had associations with the AAPM, ASTRO, ARRO, ABR, and the ACR. The representatives from the latter two organizations were on the physics exam committees, as one of the main goals was to provide a feedback loop between ASTRO and examining organizations. The document resulted in a recommended 54-hour course. Some of the subjects were included because of ACGME requirements (particles, hyperthermia), but the majority of the subjects along, with the appropriated hours per subject, was devised and agrees upon by the committee. Each topic heading features learning objectives, class hour, and a detailed outline of material to be covered. Some of the required subjects/hours are being taught in most institutions (i.e. Radiation Measurement and Calibration for 4 hours), while others may be new subjects (4 hours of Imaging for Radiation Oncology). It is expected that teaching physicists will adopt the recommended curriculum and that the ABR for its written physics exam and the ACR for its' training exam, will use the recommended curriculum as the basis for subject matter and depth of understanding. The curriculum will be updated every two years.