

# Maintenance of Certification and the Role of CAMPEP

Steven J. Goetsch, Ph.D., FAAPM  
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## Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Educational Programs

- Nonprofit organization sponsored by AAPM, ACMP, ACR and CCPM
- Accredits graduate programs, residencies and continuing education programs
- Eight member Board of Directors chaired by President John Hazle

### CAMPEP structure:

- 8 member board of directors, chaired by John Hazle
- Review committees in Graduate Education (Ed Jackson), Residency Education (Bruce Gerbi) and Continuing Education (Bruce Thomadsen)

### CAMPEP Role in MOC

- CAMPEP accredits programs, but does not create programs
- MPCECs awarded for meetings, online modules, committee work, refereeing manuscripts
- SAMs awarded at some meetings (including this one!)

## ABR Maintenance of Certification Requirements:

- All physicists certified after 2002 must participate in the ten year MOC program
- ABR is one of 24 member boards of the American Board of Medical Specialties
- ABMS instituted a requirement in 2006 for “continuous professional development”
- In many states the definition of “Qualified Medical Physicist” is dependent on Board certification
- Some fortunate physicists previously received “lifetime certification”

## Four components to MOC program in six Medical Competencies

Visit web page: [www.theabr.org](http://www.theabr.org)

1. Professional standing (license if appropriate)
  2. Lifelong learning and self-assessment
  3. Cognitive experience
  4. Practice quality improvement
- ABR sets out requirements for each component
  - Divided into “Diagnostic Radiologist Physicist”, “Radiation Therapy Physicist” and “Medical Nuclear Physicist”
  - Each diplomate must have personal account and program with ABR, accessed online at [www.theabr.org](http://www.theabr.org)
  - Total 10 year fee from \$1200 (2002 thru 2012) to \$1700 (2006 thru 2016).

*Personal note: I'll be 66 at end of 10 year cycle: I'm only going to do this once!*

## Six Medical Competencies

- Medical Knowledge
- Patient Care
- Interpersonal and Communication Skills
- Professionalism
- Practice-based Learning and Improvement
- Systems-based Practice

### MEDICAL COMPETENCIES:

#### Component 1: Professional Standing

- Evaluated through possession of a license to practice medical physics
- Letter of attestation from a certified medical physicist (year six)
- Letter of attestation from a certified radiologist or radiation oncologist

#### Component 2: Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment

##### 2.a. Lifelong Learning:

- Begin accumulating CE credits in CY 2006
- CAMPEP approves programs for MPCEC credits
- Need 250 CE credits over 10 years
- Some may be in the form of Self-Directed Educational Projects (SDEPs)
- One SDEP (15 credits) may be completed each calendar year

## CME Gateway

[www.cmegateway.org](http://www.cmegateway.org)

Time to start your own account!

### CME Gateway Participating organizations:

ABR, ACR, American Roentgen Ray Society, American Society of Neuroradiology, CAMP EP, RSNA, Society of Interventional Radiology, Society of Nuclear Medicine

- ASTRO and AAPM to automatically transfer credits (not in place yet)
- Create account at [www.cmegateway.org](http://www.cmegateway.org)
- Log in and edit or add CME credits
- Best to actively monitor these credits
- Log in, view and print MPCEC credits

### Are SDEPs composed of *Dark Matter*?

- Are they MACHOs?
- WIMPs?
- Can you get SDEPs at WIMP in Colorado?
- How do you pronounce "SDEP"?

### Examples of Self-Directed Education Projects

- Therapeutic radiologic physics: develop a one hour lecture on use of PET/CT in radiation oncology
- Therapeutic radiologic physics: learn to do HDR treatment plans
- Therapeutic radiologic physics: learn to use TG-51 protocol for calibration of high energy photon and electron beams

## More examples of SDEPs:

- Diagnostic radiologic physics: understand HIPAA and privacy regulations as related to diagnostic radiology
- Diagnostic radiologic physics: Improve personal knowledge and understanding of molecular imaging
- Medical nuclear physics: patient release options following I-131 therapy

## 2. Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment:

### 2. b. Self-Assessment Modules (SAMs)

- Twenty SAMs required over 10 year period
- No more than 4 SAM credits per year
- SAMs developed by radiologic physics related societies

## Mysterious world of SAMs

- What are they?
- How do you find them?
- How do you get two per year?

## How do you get SAMs?

- Presently 3 SAMs available online thru RSNA
- AAPM has just added seven SAMs online thru optional Remote Directed Continuing Education (RDCE) program (down as of April 4)
- This ACMP meeting to grant SAM credits
- More SAMs will be added each year

## AAPM RDCE online SAMs

- Must subscribe to RDCE
- Log on to AAPM web page: Education/Virtual Library/AAPM 2007 meeting
- Opens “blueskybroadcast.com” web page
- Select AAPM Annual Meetings, then select 2007, then “SAMs presentations”

## AAPM 2007 Annual Meeting SAMs

- 7 SAMs available in 3 categories: 4 Radiation Therapy, 1 in CT and 1 in “Shielding RF, PET, CT”
- Must watch ALL video presentations first (90 minutes to 2 hours)
- Then take quiz
- Check ABR web page to make sure you get credit

## Component 3: Cognitive Experience

Must demonstrate core knowledge fundamental to practice of radiologic physics

- One exam to be taken during year 8, 9 or 10
- Exam to be secure and proctored in a nationally recognized center
- New exams offered once per year
- First exam to be given in 2010, locations to be announced
- First rad onc exam offered Oct 5, 2007 and Apr 25, 2008. Next exam offered Oct. 3, 2008
- *First radiologic physics exam in 2010*

## Component 4: Practice Quality Improvement (PQI)

Every diplomate must participate continuously in PQI over the 10 year cycle

Five areas: safety, accuracy of analyses and calculations, communication issues, practice guidelines and technical standards, and surveys

- Individual must receive training in year one (“Yikes!! I’m already behind”)
- Year 2 Select project and collect baseline data
- Year 3 Analyze data, create improvement plan
- Year 4 Implement improvement plan
- Years 5-10 repeat cycle

### Examples of PQI Projects

- Therapy: standardize physics chart checks; standardize dose constancy testing
- Diagnostic: women’s CT doses; report turnaround times and communication issues
- Nuclear medicine: radiation badge monitoring; survey of satisfaction of physicians

### ABR Physics Representatives

- Initial certification: Rich Morin, Assistant Executive Director
- Maintenance of certification: Don Frey, Assistant Executive Director
- Radiologic Physics Board Members: Rich Morin, Don Frey and Geoff Ibbott

## Conclusions

- Brave new adventure
- Everyone has questions
- Perhaps ABR could assign counselors to help guide individuals