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 National Registry with CRCPD
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The Process



1. Task group created a draft document based on NY, TX and FL laws and experience
April - October 2008
2. JMPLSC reviewed and refined the draft
October 2008 - April 2009
3. Final document completed April 2009
4. The document will be modified for each state, as needed

Section 2. Definitions.

1. "Clinical" - activities directly relating to the treatment or diagnosis of human ailments.
2. "Specialty" or "specialty area" - the following branch or branches of special competence within medical physics:

Medical Physics



(a) "Diagnostic radiological physics"

- diagnostic applications of x rays,
- gamma rays from sealed sources,
- ultrasonic radiation,
- radio frequency radiation and magnetic fields;
- the equipment associated with their production, use, measurement and evaluation;
- the quality of images resulting from their production and
- the medical health physics associated with this subfield;

(b) "Medical health physics"

- safe use of x rays, gamma rays,
- electron and other charged particle beams of neutrons or radionuclides and of radiation from sealed radionuclide sources for both diagnostic and therapeutic purposes,
 - except with regard to the application of radiation to patients for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes
- and the instrumentation required to perform appropriate radiation surveys;

(c) "Medical nuclear physics"

- therapeutic and diagnostic applications of radionuclides,
 - except those used in sealed sources for therapeutic purposes;
- the equipment associated with their production, use, measurement and evaluation;
- the quality of images resulting from their production and use and
- the medical health physics associated with this subfield

(d) "Therapeutic radiological physics" or "radiation oncology physics"

- therapeutic applications of x-rays, gamma rays, electron and charged particle beams, neutrons and radiations from sealed radionuclide sources;
- the equipment associated with their production, use, measurement and evaluation; the quality of images resulting from their production and use;
- and the medical health physics associated with this subfield.

3. "Medical physics" - the branch of physics that is associated with the practice of medicine.

4. "Radiation" - ionizing or non-ionizing radiation above background levels which is used to perform a diagnostic or therapeutic medical or dental radiological procedure.

5. "Radiological physics" -

- diagnostic radiological physics,
- therapeutic radiological physics or radiation oncology physics,
- medical nuclear physics and
- medical health physics.

6. "Radiological procedure" -

- a) a test, measurement, calculation, or radiation exposure
- b) used in the diagnosis or treatment of diseases or other medical or dental conditions in human beings
- c) that includes therapeutic radiation, diagnostic radiation, nuclear magnetic resonance, or nuclear medicine procedures.

7. "General Supervision" -

- A procedure is performed under a Qualified Medical Physicist's (QMP) overall direction and control - but the QMP's presence is not required during the performance of the procedure.
- The training of the personnel who actually perform the procedure and the maintenance of the necessary equipment and supplies are the continuing responsibility of the QMP.

8. "Direct Supervision" -

means a Qualified Medical Physicist must exercise General Supervision and be present in the facility and immediately available to furnish assistance and direction throughout the performance of the procedure but is not required to be present in the room when the procedure is being performed.

9. "Personal Supervision" -

a Qualified Medical Physicist must exercise General Supervision and be present in the room during the performance of the procedure.

Section 3. Definition of "practice of medical physics".

1. "Practice of the profession of medical physics" - the use of principles and accepted protocols of physics to provide the quality, quantity, and placement of radiation during the performance of a radiological procedure.
2. A license to practice medical physics shall be issued with special competency in one or more specialty areas in which the licensee has satisfied the requirements of section 6 of this article.

3. The practice in any specialty by a person whose license is not issued with special competency for such specialty shall be deemed the unauthorized practice of the profession of medical physics.

4. Only a person licensed under this article shall practice the profession of medical physics.

Section 4. Use of the title "licensed medical physicist".

Only a person licensed under this article shall use the title "licensed medical physicist".

Section 5. <State Board> for medical physics.

- Appointed by the <agency> upon the recommendation of the commissioner
- Shall assist on matters of licensure and professional conduct in accordance with <provisions of existing physician licensure laws>.
- Assist the board for medicine solely in medical physics matters and shall also function as the state board for medical physics.
- The licensure requirements shall be waived for the initial <state board> appointees, provided that such appointees shall have received national certification in their specialty.
- Must meet at least twice a year to provide administrative review of the licensure program to include review of applications, continuing education requirements and enforcement actions.

The <state board> shall consist of eight individuals:

- (a) 4 licensed medical physicists from each of the specialties:
 - (i) diagnostic radiological physics,
 - (ii) therapeutic radiological or radiation oncology physics,
 - (iii) medical nuclear physics, and
 - (iv) medical health physics;
- (b) 3 licensed physicians from each of the following specialties:
 - (i) diagnostic radiology,
 - (ii) radiation therapy or radiation oncology, and
 - (iii) nuclear medicine; and
- (c) A representative of the public at large.

Section 6. Requirements and procedures.

1. Application.
2. Education. A graduate degree from an accredited college or university in accordance with state regulations.
 - i. completed such courses as defined by the <state board> to practice in the medical physics specialty in which the applicant has applied for a license;
3. Experience. Have experience in his or her medical physics specialty satisfactory to the board and in accordance with the state regulations; and
4. Board Certification. Receive and maintain board certification in his or her medical physics specialty satisfactory to the board; and

5. Fee.

- (a) Payment and distribution.
 - (i) The <state board> shall pay all fees collected under the provisions of this subtitle to the Comptroller of the <state>.
 - (ii) The Comptroller shall distribute all fees to the <state board> established under Section five in this article.
- (b) Use. The fees shall be used to cover the actual documented direct and indirect costs of fulfilling the statutory and regulatory duties of the <state board> as provided by the provisions of this subtitle.

Section 7. Provisional Licenses.

1. Eligibility.

- (a) a person who fulfills all requirements for a licensed medical physicist except those relating to board certification or experience; or
- (b) a medical physics student enrolled in a graduate or post-graduate program approved by the <state board>; or

- (c) a person has been licensed or certified in good standing as a practitioner of one the subspecialties of medical physics for at least two years in another jurisdiction, including a foreign country, that has licensing or certification requirements substantially equivalent to the requirements of this article as determined by the <state board> and
 - (i) has passed a national or other examination recognized by the <state board> relating to the subspecialties of medical physics; and
 - (ii) is sponsored by a person licensed under this article with whom the provisional license holder will practice during the time the person holds a provisional license.

- 2. Limit of practice. An individual with a provisional license shall be authorized to practice medical physics only under the direct supervision of a licensed medical physicist and only in the subspecialty of such licensed medical physicist;
- 3. Duration. A provisional license permit shall be valid for two years. It may be renewed at the discretion of the <state>;
- 4. Fee.
- 5. Experience. Medical physics experience obtained in this state to be credited towards the experience requirement for licensure must be obtained under a provisional license.

Section 8. Exemptions. Nothing in this article shall be construed to:

- 1. Affect, prevent or in any manner expand or limit the authority of any person otherwise authorized by law or regulation to practice any function of a medical physicist, or any department or agency authorized by law or regulation to regulate the use of radiation, nor
- 2. Prohibit the repair or calibration of any test equipment used by licensed medical physicists by any person otherwise allowed to do so under state or federal law, nor

3. Serve to limit radiologic and/or imaging technologists or any individual otherwise authorized by law or regulation from performing quality control measurements or obtaining quality control data under the supervision of a licensed medical physicist, nor
4. Serve to limit neither a service engineer in the repair of radiation producing equipment or an installation engineer in the installation of radiation producing equipment.

Section 9. Licensure without board certification.

- Within <time frame determined by state> of the effective date of regulations implementing the provisions of this article,
- the <state board> may issue a license to practice medical physics within one or more specialties in this state, without board certification, to a person who meets the requirements
- of subdivisions one, three and four of Section six of this article

- In addition

- has earned a bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree from an accredited college or university
 - ♦ in the case of an earned bachelor's degree,
 - the completion of at least fifteen years of full-time work experience in the medical physics specialty for which application is made,
 - ♦ or, in the case of an earned master's or doctoral degree,
 - the completion of at least two years of full-time work experience in the seven years preceding the date of application in the medical physics specialty for which application is made and
 - the equivalent of one year or more of full-time work experience in the ten years preceding the date of application for each additional specialty for which application is made.

Section 10. Continuing Education Requirements.

The state shall require continuing education sufficient to maintain professional certification as defined by the <state board> by regulation.

Section 11. License Term and Renewal.

A license is valid for two years from the date granted and shall be renewed every two years.

Section 12. Enforcement.

1. In general, Subject to the hearing provisions of <appropriate state subtitle>, the <state board>, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum, may

- reprimand any licensee,
- place any licensee on probation, or
- suspend or revoke a license if the licensee:

(a) Fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license for the applicant or licensee or for another;

(b) Fraudulently or deceptively uses a license;

(c) Is guilty of:

(i) Immoral conduct in the practice of medical physics; or

(ii) Unprofessional conduct in the practice of medical physics;

(d) Is professionally, physically, or mentally incompetent;

(e) Habitually is intoxicated;

(f) Is addicted to, or habitually abuses, any narcotic or controlled dangerous substance as defined in <state criminal law article>;

(g) Provides professional services:

(i) While under the influence of alcohol; or

(ii) While using any narcotic or controlled dangerous substance, as defined in <state criminal law article> or other drug that is in excess of therapeutic amounts or without valid medical indication;

(h) Promotes the sale of drugs, devices, appliances, or goods to a patient so as to exploit the patient for financial gain;

(i) Willfully makes or files a false report or record in the practice of medical physics;

(j) Willfully fails to file or record any medical report as required under law, willfully impedes or obstructs the filing or recording of the report, or induces another to fail to file or record the report;

And more bad stuff...

Section 13. Ethical Guidelines.

Recommend practice standards for the practice of medical physics which are consistent with the Code of Ethics prepared by the American Association of Physicists in Medicine and American College of Medical Physics and disciplinary guidelines adopted under <current applicable state law>.

Section 14. Separability.

If any section of this article, or part thereof, shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of any other section or part thereof.

This act shall take effect 18 months after the date on which it shall have become a law; provided however, that any actions necessary for the implementation of the provisions of this act on its effective date are authorized and directed to be completed on or before such effective date.

National Registry of Qualified Medical Physicists

What it is:

1. An independently maintained, annually updated database of those who meet the definition of "QMP" (Board-certified in a specialty)

What it does:

1. Provides "1-stop shopping" for
 - Regulators - Inspectors
 - Employers

What it does NOT do:

1. Evaluate anyone's credentials
2. Substitute for Licensure in most states



The Future

- AAPM/ACMP - JMPLSC supporting Licensure in
 - MA
 - MI
 - MO
 - OH
 - PA
- Modifying this doc to fit each state's situation