Medical Physicists Certification Process and Examination in the Middle East

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Contents

• Current certifying organizations / bodies
• Requirements to set for the certifying exam
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Current Status

Clinical Practice:
- High demand on MP
- Most MP with BSc
- Most MP un-certified

National Bodies For Accreditation Of MP: NONE

National Regulations For Qualifications: NONE

Academic programs:
- 3 BSc
- 2 MSc
Challenges in ME region

1. Education and Training of MP

   a. Number and level (undergraduate vs graduate) of academic programs in the region.
   b. Quality of the programs
   c. Availability of clinical training.
   d. Quality of training.
“Identify gaps in education and training and develop/harmonize educational materials as needed”
Challenges in ME Region

2. Recognition of the profession of Medical physics at the national level

Lack of recognition:
- Lack of available positions
- Type of positions and job descriptions
- Salary
- Lower satisfaction of MP
“Internationally endorsed roles and responsibilities of MP and requirements for education and training, including clinical requirements”
INTERCOM

INT 6/054
Vienna, May 09

Working Group #3: Recognition of the profession of Medical physics

“Raise awareness and recognition of MP as a healthcare profession”
Challenges in ME Region

3. Accreditation of academic and training programs.
   – Role for the MEFOMP.
   – Utilize recommendations from INT 6/054
   – Establish a regional certification body
CALL for ACTION

1. Strengthen number and level of academic programs -> Harmonize courses throughout the region?

2. Regulations for clinical training.

3. Regulate and harmonize qualifications of clinical MP (IBMP and MEFOMP)
Existing Certifying

Usually the Medical Physicists are employed based on a locally arranged licensing scheme without going through the process of examination.

- King Faisal Specialist Hospital in collaboration with the IPEM.
The criteria to set for the exam

- M.Sc. or equivalent advanced degree in Medical Physics from an accredited university.

- Two years of professional experience or training in hospital.
Types of Exam Questions

- Written
  - General basic physics
  - General Medical Physics
  - Specialized: radiotherapy, diagnostic, nuclear medicine

- Oral
  - Basic Physics and medical physics
  - Interests

- Practical
Exam Models
Model 1

Written Exam
Basic physics, General Medical physics, Specialized Medical Physics

Followed by

Oral Exam
General discussion
Model 2

Written Exam 1
Basic physics, General Medical physics

Followed by

Written Exam 2
Specialty Medical Physics

Followed by

Oral Exam
Model 3

- Written Exam 1
  - Basic physics, General Medical physics

- Written Exam 2
  - Specialty Medical Physics

- Oral Exam
Pass / Fail Criteria for models

- Minimum % Percentage or scores required to each part.
- Model 1, chronologic order
- Model 2, same as Model 1
- Model 3, all exams done in parallel, the average % or scores is considered.
Re-examination Criteria

• In Model 1 & 2 the candidate has to repeat the exam upon failure of each part before proceeding to the next part.

• In Model 3, the candidate will repeat the part that failed in only, and if the failure repeated for the second time, the has to repeat the entire all three parts.
Thank You