

Abstract: The safety of patients treated with radiation oncology associated with personnel credentialing and staffing has become the focus of national and international concern. ASTRO is revisiting the question of personnel staffing levels by organizing and re-convening the “Blue Book” project; this is the first such effort since 1991. In addition, the International Atomic Energy Agency has convened an effort to establish recommended international staffing recommendations. These panels will deliver recommendations based on “best information” from various published sources. One such source is the *Abt study of medical physicist work values for radiation oncology physics services, Round III*, published by the AAPM. The 2008 Abt study measured qualified medical physicist (QMP) work associated with routine radiation oncology procedures as well as some special procedures. A work model was created to allow the medical physicist to defend QMP work and staffing based on both routine and special procedures service mix. Finally, a previously published supply and demand model for radiation oncology physicist is updated and presented to predict medical physicist employment market parameters through the year 2020.

Objectives: 1. Understand the current need to establish recommended personnel staffing levels in radiation oncology. 2. Understand the information documented in the Abt studies. 3. Understand a current model that predicts the supply and demand for radiation oncology physicists through 2020.