

**Report of the symposium entitled "The new horizon of
medical physics in radiation oncology" in Taiwan**

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This three-day symposium was held during April 27-29, 2002 in Taipei, Taiwan. It was jointly organized and supported by North America Chinese Medical Physics Association (NACMPA) and Chinese Society of Medical Physics (CSMP). Also, it was also endorsed by America Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM) and the International Organization of Medical Physics (IOMP). As the U.S. organizer, I invited five medical physicists including myself, and one radiation oncologist from the United States traveling to Taiwan to make presentations on the topics such as image-guided treatment planning, IMRT principles, QA, and clinical efficacies, new AAPM TG-51 calibration protocol, HDR's QA program and its clinical applications, intravascular brachytherapy, and biological models of TCP and NTCP, etc. The physics faculties were N. Suntharaligan, PhD, Thomas Jefferson University, Cheng B. Saw, PhD, University of Nebraska, Chen-shou Chui, PhD, MSKCC, Tao-seng Chen, PhD, Albany Medical School, and myself. The radiation oncologist was Shalom Kalnicki, MD, University of Pittsburgh. The presentations were very well received by the local colleagues who attended this meeting.

There were approximately 180 attendees among them are practicing medical physicists and radiation oncologists, and residents and university students. The symposium was well attended and very successful. It was extremely well organized by the Taiwan organizer, David Huang, PhD, who spent a great deal of time and efforts for this meeting. All of the participants were given a book of presenter's notes, an e-textbook of medical physics from Dr. Saw and a certificate of attendance issued by AAPM, IOMP and CSMP. Overall, the meeting was the biggest symposium ever held on the topic of medical physics at Taiwan in the recent years.

At last not the least, this symposium was supported in part by the generous financial contributions from the vendors as follows: Varian, Siemens, Elekta, GE, Mentor, Sun Nuclear, CMS, and other local vendors in Taiwan.